Do you know your options?

National Association of People With AIDS releases easy guide to treatments.

page 20

Parade logo is a go!

B.A.R. design man Jorge Alonso is the big winner.

page 3



Odaline de la Martinez leads the Women's Philharmonic at Herbst.

see Arts section



Vol. 27 • No. 4 • 23 January 1997

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One person's Youth Lobby Day odyssey

extensive dis-claimers: "Lou Sheldon of the Family Values

Sheldon of the Family Values
Coalition is in this building. If you see him, just ignore him. He would love to incite a riot today." "In the event of an accident in which I am injured, I give LIFE Lobby permission to transport me to a hospital or triage unit." "There are a lot of people in the capital who don't like us because we're queer." "The bus is leaving promptly at 7 a.m., we cannot wait around for people who are late."
So why would anyone want to rise at 6 a.m., venture out of the safety of queer San Francisco, and risk personal safety and an encounter with the devil incarnate? Because it was Youth Lobby Day, the one day of the year when gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, supportive straight, and (yes, Philip and Andrew) questioning youth from all over California converge on Sacramento to lobby, learn, cruies, and conquer. fornia converge on Sacramento to lobby, learn, cruise, and conquer. That was how I motivated myself to get

out of bed when my alarm clock went off on

by Jesse Costello-Good

the dark and misty morning of January 15. Plus, as an out San Francisco Youth Com-missioner, my high school's Gay/Straight Al-liance founder and president, and an allaround queer youth activist, I couldn't get

alternative movie theater (by Sacramento standards) located a few blocks from the capital. Looking and feeling like a scene from an all-gay high school, youth registered inside while more spilled out onto the street. Rumors of Page Hodel DJing an end-of-theday party circulated outside in a crowd that displayed the wonderful diversity of queer

Sacramento looked like a scene from an all-gay high school.

away with not going. The other 450 youth who took part in the day similarly justified skipping school, rescheduling finals, lying to their parents, or flying in from Los Angeles. Upon arriving in downtown Sacramento, admittedly the only time I have ever visited, we disembarked at the Crest Theater, an

youth for all of Sacramento to see.

Sacramento looked with cautious eyes. Though we probably outnumbered any hos-tile group, even the Family Values Coalition, there was a slight understanding that we were out of place. Sacramento, after all, did not become the state capital because of cultural activity or good weather, and therefore hasn't attracted a huge gay population.

The new AB 101

The new AB 101

First on the agenda was a legislative briefing from Laurie McBride of LIFE Lobby, the statewide lobby for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and HIV-affected communities, and the organizer of the day's events. We were briefed about AB 101, a bill introduced this session by Assemblymember Sheila Kuehl, a lesbian from Santa Monica. If passed, the bill, called the "Dignity for All Students Act," would simply add "sexual orientation" to the long list of characteristics that California schools cannot discriminate against. Our mission for the day was to meet with our Assemblymembers was to meet with our Assemblymembers and State Senators and get them to agree to vote for AB 101.

First, however, Youth Lobby Day took

page 23 ▶

prevention plan lands wit Nearly 700 pages, but no chapter on condoms

by Cynthia Laird

ot off the presses and nearly 700
pages thick with an eye-catching cover, San Francisco's 1997
HIV Prevention Plan was unveiled Friday, January 17, two days after
members of the HIV Prevention Planning
Council met with AIDS Office Director Dr. Mitch Katz to voice concerns about the allocation of prevention funds. [See story, page 19.]

People are welcome to come to the AIDS

Office to review a copy of the prevention plan, which is available at the reception desk. Gene Copello, chief of Health and Prevention Services Branch at the AIDS Of-

Prevention Services Branch at the AIDS Office, told the B.A.R. that a copy will be delivered to the San Francisco Public Library on Monday, February 3.

"We don't have enough to give to every-body," Copello said.

The plan does not contain a specific chapter or section on condoms. However, Copello said condom use is discussed in sections of the plan

rtions of the plan.
Valerie Kegebein, chief of the HIV Pre-

vention Planning, Policy, and Health Edu-cation Unit, said the prevention council will discuss the new plan when it meets Thurs-day, February 13.

day, February 13.

As with the last prevention plan done in 1995, the focus of the new document is on 12 behavioral risk groups identified by the council. Copello explained the shift to behavioral risk groups started in 1995 when the council emphasized behavior. This year's plan takes previous plans and adds to them, Copello said.

"We know certain behaviors put people

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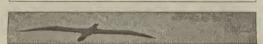
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New group discusses bathhouse reopening

by Liz Highleyman

n the wake of the recent controversy surrounding a proposal to establish legislation to regulate San Francisco sex clubs, community members have raised the stakes by called for a reopening of bathhouses in the city. Community United for Sexual Privacy – CUSP – held its first meeting Friday, January 17. This meeting followed last Tuesday's meeting of the Coalition for Healthy Sex (CHS), at which a majority of non-CHS attendees redirected the focus of the meeting to the bathhouse issue, with ing to the bathhouse issue, with many objecting to proposed De-partment of Public Health (DPH) standards that would prohibit pri-vate locked rooms and mandate frequent monitoring in public sex

requent monitoring in public sex environments.

About 30 people gathered Friday to discuss ways to make private spaces available in public sex establishments. Meeting facilitator Jonathan Klein framed the issue by stating that recent proposals to regulate sex clubs did not come from the community, and that "a community poll would not reflect the position of the CHS." Noting that the CHS guidelines were voluntary while the proposed DPH standards would be mandatory, Tortuga Bi Liberty accused the DPH of being

"a poisonous butterfly imitating a harmless one."

Although bathhouses per se zere never officially disallowed, facilities were instructed to reracilities were instructed to re-move doors and monitor their spaces in accordance with a judi-cial order imposed in 1984 at the behest of then-DPH director Mervyn Silverman. The order fol-lowed a contentious debate betowen a contentious debate between those who believed bath-houses promoted the spread of AIDS and those who believed that closing the baths was a homopho-bic affront to civil liberties. At the bic affront to civil liberties. At the time, the worsening AIDS crisis and uncertainty about how the disease was transmitted — Reid Condit pointed out that "some people thought just entering a bathhouse was dangerous" — had already eroded business, and for many bathhouses, the injunction

many bathhouses, the injunction was a final straw.

In the late 1980s, new sex clubs began to crop up, distinguished from bathhouses chiefly by their lack of private rooms. Interestingly, public hot tub facilities — which share most features of bathhouses – are not generally considered to fall under the 1984 injunction or the recently proposed sex club standards. Several CUSP members who remembered the debates of a decade ago pointed out that while bathhous pointed out that while bathhouspointed out that while bathhouses played the role of scapegoat in the early years of the epidemic, today's differing situation calls for reappraisal of old rules.

Monitoring does not equal responsibility

responsibility

As was discussed at the recent CHS meeting, there is little evidence that unmonitored private rooms promote unsafe sex. Paul Cotten, director of the health education program at the Steamworks bathhouse in Berkeley, believes it is not only important to provide information about safer sexual behavior, but also to allow men a chance to practice such beman chance to practice such besexual behavior, but also to allow men a chance to practice such be-havior. Richard Carrazza stated that "monitoring does not pro-mote responsibility – conveying that someone else will take care of you is not good public health." Klein noted that there is wide-spread consensus within the pub-lic health community that con-gregate sex environments are ideal venues for education.

A considerable amount of dis-cussion at Friday's meeting cen-

tered around the CHS. There was tered around the CHS. There was a general sense that there is a growing division within that group between sex club owners and party operators on the one hand and representatives of AIDS service organizations on the other. CUSP discussed ways to walk the CHS proter responsive to other. CUSF discussed ways to make the CHS more responsive to community concerns, including encouraging new members to join. CHS member and LINKS party host Edward Goehring pointed out that sentiment within pointed out that sentiment within the CHS was hardly unanimous in favor of the guidelines, and that some members were "compliant rather than supportive." Klein stated that "the reason for the ex-istence of the CHS was fear, but now that fear is a red herring... Sex clubs don't have to run scared from the DEH and two can descent Sex clubs don't have to run scared from the DPH, and we can demand that they operate as we want." Steve Johnson noted that it was not just city officials and AIDS educators who were likely to oppose reopening bathhouses, but also "chicken littles" within the gay community who "brought in city officials in the first place." Klein stated that the people who oppose bathhouses are generally oppose bathhouses are generally basing their beliefs on bias and "have no idea what they fear," pointing out the irony that to many "a sex club seems more benign that a bathhouse."

Attendees agreed that al-though Mayor Willie Brown has a lloggin Mayor While Brown has a legacy of promoting sexual free-dom legislation, he wants to avoid negative publicity. Mike Powers, owner of the Power Exchange club, stated that "the mayor is out of his mind if he thinks he"ll leave office without bathhouses becoming an issue." Goehring noted that the mayor likely wants to do the mayor likely wants to do nothing as long as possible, but that "a policy of 'leave us alone' does not give us legitimacy or full rights under the law."

The next meeting of CUSP will take place on Wednesday, January 29th at 7:30 p.m. at the Power Exchange Main Station, located at 74 Otis Street. Women, transgendered persons, and people of other orientations who share CUSP's concerns are encouraged to concerns are encouraged to participate. For more information, visit the group at http://www.bannon.com/cusp or e-mail sfcusp@aol.com.

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NERTs to Castro residents

by Cynthia Laird

he ground has stopped shaking, and your apartment is okay. Suddenly, you smell gas in the hallway. Would you know what to do? Should the gas be shut off? Is everybody else out of the building? se out of the building?
If you live in the Castro area,

now is your chance to find out. Another free course in Neighborhood Emergency Response Training (NERT) will begin Wednesday, January 29 and con-tinue for the next five Wednesday evenings. Robin Lohr, with the Castro

area NERT, said people who haven't taken the class before

haven't taken the class before should take advantage of the opportunity. The course covers skills that will enable people to help out rescue workers in the event of a major disaster.

"The course covers basic disaster medicine, light search and rescue, knowing when to shut off the gas, and team organization," Lohr said, adding that knowing how to organize neighbors is one of the most important aspects of being prepared tant aspects of being prepared for emergencies.

You will also learn what to

keep in your survival kit home, school, or at the office.

The course is taught by members of the San Francisco Fire bers of the San Francisco Fire Department. Emergency districts in the city have been established, and the Fire Department works with individuals in various neighborhoods to educate residents about what to do in the event of a disaster. ▼

The NERT class begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at Sanchez Elementary School, 325 Sanchez Street. To register or for more information, call Frank Lucier with the SFFD at (415) 558-3456.

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Gay small business seminar Wednesday

by Dennis Conkin

free community seminar covering the basics of small business ownership for gay and lesbian business owners will be offered this Wednesday, January 29. The workshop will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Latino Hispanic Community Meeting

Room of the San Francisco Main Library, located at 100 Larkin

Street.
The workshop is sponsored by the United States Small Business Association, Citibank, Golden Gate Business Association, Bay Area Career Women and the Lavender Pages. "The Small Business Adminis-tration is a federal acceptance on the

tration is a federal agency open to

all businesses. It's reaching out and acknowledging lesbian and gay business owners," said Grace Greenberg, an account executive with Lavender Pages.

The four-section seminar will

The four-section seminar will include presentations from the SBA and Citibank, a panel of lesbian and gay small business owners, and workshops about access to capital for existing and new business, as well as a basic "Financials 101" workshop, according to Irv Spivak, president of the Golden Gate Business Association. ▼

The workshop is free, but space is limited. For more information and to register, contact Gary Marshall at (415) 744-6771.



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meetings

Parade logo selected



design created by Bay Area Reporter production designer Jorge Alonso has been chosen as the official logo of the 1997 San Francisco Pride Parade celebrations. The parade's theme is "One Community, Many Faces."

Alonso's computer-manipulated illustration took an estimated ten hours to complete, but the 35 year-old artist said the initial concern "was instantaneous."

was instantaneous

cept 'was instantaneous.'

Alonso's image is the first photo-based image to win the annual competition for the event's logo and will appear on billboards, tshirts, and other merchandise at the world's largest celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender pride.

Alonso will receive \$500 for his award-winning image. He plans to use the money to finance a trip to Las Vegas.

to use the money to finance a trip to Las Vegas.

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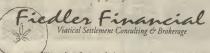
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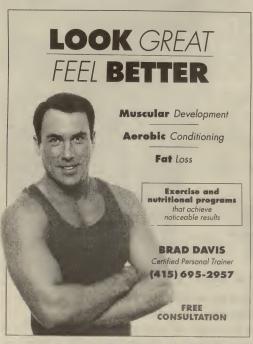






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Bowling in ball gowns



ay dads David Dickson (left back) and Gregg Cassin (right back) threw a "Bowling in Ball Gowns" birthday party for Dickson's eight-year-old daughter Breauna at Presidio Bowling Center last Saturday morning. The men supplied the dresses (natch); the girls vogued while racking up strikes and spares; and a good time was reportedly had by all.

Planned Parenthood 'Roe' reception to feature Migden

representatives pointed out that in 1997, legislators continue to chip away at a woman's right to make

private decisions concerning her reproductive future. Support for parental consent and banning cer-

tain abortion procedures also is dangerously increasing. "It's so important to be vigilant

about protecting the rights we have gained since the *Roe v. Wade* decision," said Dian Harrison,

chief executive officer and president of Planned Parenthood Gold-

en Gate. "The religious political extremist movement has made such inroads that a women's right to

choose is constantly in danger of being eroded. Events such as our

by Cynthia Laird

he 24th anniversary of the landmark United States Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade will be commemorated by Planned Parenthood Golden Gate (PPGG) and the California Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (CARAL) with a wine and cheese reception on Wednesday, January 29 in San Francisco.

State Assemblywoman Carole

State Assemblywoman Carole Migden will be the keynote speaker at the event, entitled "From Awareness to Action: Shaping the Future of Choice in America."

Awareness to Action: Shaping the Future of Choice in America."
On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court reached the landmark decision in *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortion throughout the United States.
However, Planned Parenthood

anniversary reception help keep our advocacy efforts alive." Next week's event addresses the impact of the 1996 election results on the pro-choice movement in America. Migden, a former member of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, has led efforts to save vital healthcare programs from proposed budget cuts. Her presentation will cover current voter trends on the issue of choice and how that will affect the future of women's reproductive rights.

The event will also offer suggested actions and strategies for community involvement to help preserve the rights passed down in *Roe v. Wade.* •

The reception takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Post Street Pavilion, 750 Post Street at Leavenworth. Tickets are \$35 per person and are available by sending a check to PPGG - Public Affairs, 815 Eddy Street, San Francisco CA 94109. For more information, call PPGG at (415) 441-7858.

Academy of Friends launches auto immune fundraiser

by Dennis Conkin

ive hundred registered raffle certificates for a brand new world-class 1997 BMW Z3 Roadster have been made available to the non-profit Academy of Friends by the British Motors Company of San Francisco. The BMW, valued at more than \$30,000, will be raffled off March 24 at the Van Ness Avenue car dealership.

dealership.

One of the city's larger contributors to AIDS organizations, the non-profit Academy of Friends has raised more than \$1.2

million for a variety of Bay Area AIDS service groups since the beginning of the epidemic. Raffle certificates for the Z3 Roadster are \$100 each and can be

Raffle certificates for the Z3 Roadster are \$100 each and can be purchased through the Academy until all are sold, and every cent raised will benefit the Academy. The price may seem steep, but not when judged against the one-in-500 chance of winning the jazzy new two-seater.

"The odds of winning this spectacular automobile are significantly higher than most drawings, which have no limit to the number of chances to win," said Patrick Smith, chair of the Academy.

The organization is best known for its annual Oscar Night Gala, which attracts more than 1,500 patrons to the secondlargest Oscar night celebration in the world for an evening of food and drink, entertainment, and auction merchandise offered by participating restaurants and wineries. A different venue for the event is chosen each year. Local businesses and corporations provide auction merchandise such as original art, custom furniture, travel prizes, and other exclusive items, as well as in-kind support and contributions, to support the Academy's endeavors with the gala fundraiser.

gala fundraiser.

Beneficiaries of past Academy fundraisers have included the Stop AIDS Project, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, Project Inform, Coming Home Hospice, Shanti Project, and Continuum HIV Day Services.

The Academy also presents the annual Kilo Cytes award for worse.

The Academy also presents the annual Kile Ozier award for exemplary volunteer service in the fight against AIDS, and makes a \$5,000 donation to an AIDS organization chosen by the recipient. ▼

For more information about tickets, contact the Academy of Friends at (415) 252-0713, or Tom King at BMW of San Francisco at (415) 863-9000, extension 233.



Pit bull attack witness fears for safety

hy Dennis Conkin

n order to tell his story, the B.A.R. had to agree not to tell his name or where he works, but he's a gay man living in San Francisco who happened to be a material witness to a pit bull attack on two gay men at Market and Church streets. And he's frightened.

Three suspects were arrested in the December 15 incident after they knocked over a motorcycle at St. Francis Lutheran Church on Church Street and then severely beat, and ordered a pit bull to at-tack, a bystander and the motor-cycle's owner, all the while using

cycles owner, all the while using virulently anti-gay epithets.
When the witness to the attack went to Mission police station on the night of the incident, to identify the attackers of the two men, he said there were no arrange-ments available to protect his

In lieu of a line-up room or one-way glass, officers offered the witness the option of putting a paper bag with cut-out eyeholes over his head when he made the

identifications, but he declined.
"I thought it was such an indignity that I just couldn't do it," he said. Instead, he peered through a door into the booking room where suspects El Toro Nelson, 27, Randolph Rodriguez, and Justo Rivera, both 26, were being held on aggravated assault and hate crimes. Then, according to the witness,

when he was spotted looking through the door, Rodriguez pointed him out as the "white boy

pointed him out as the "white boy wearing the flannel shirt" to the other suspects.

And the witness says he became a victim himself, when Rivera – as police officers listened – reportedly threatened to kill him if he said anything.

Municipal Judge Kevin Ryan reminded the District Attorney's office of this not-minor detail when the suspect showed up in

when the suspect showed up in his court to enter pleas on the charges – since it wasn't in the initial people's complaint – and used it as a salient fact when he set Rivera's bail at \$100,000.

Now, six weeks into the long story that will be this case, this witness/victim is already frustrat-ed with the criminal justice sys-

Private dick at the door

Last week, upon arriving home after a long day at work, he discovered a private investigator's card under his apartment door – an investigator working for the man who allegedly threatened to kill him – and so did friends who were with him the night of the pit bull attack. bull attack.

Because he was never told he might be contacted by the suspects' representatives as the case heads for a January 31 preliminary hearing, he told the *Bay Area Reporter* the contact left him

Reports the Contact left film scared and angry.

Private investigator Robert Meola, who left the card, told the B.A.R. that he was "just doing his job" as a defense investigator try-

ing to speak to witnesses to hear their versions of the facts. Meola is paid by the court, as are the two private defense attor-neys assigned to the case along with the Public Defender – who can only represent one of the three criminal defendants in the case without a conflict of interest.

"The police report has a list of all the victims," Meola said. "It's

my job to call all the witnesses. I

really am a very nice guy."

What Meola left unsaid is that the defense wants to talk to wit-nesses and victims in order to find gaps and inconsistencies in their stories, with an eye to impeaching them on the stand when the case goes to trial.

day weekend, and a private eye was on his doorstep, he didn't know who to call or what to do –

know who to call or what to do – so he called the B.A.R.
"I felt very intimidated. He's part of the defense of the guy who owns the dog, and part of what I'm feeling is these people have

Officers offered him the option of putting a paper bag with cut-out eyeholes over his head when he made the identifications.

But the witness, who didn't But the witness, who didn't know at first that the investigator was just doing his job, told the *B.A.R.* he felt violated and very worried when he discovered the operative's card under his door.

Frankly, he was worried that the suspects were trying to scare

him.
"These aren't 14-year-old children who stole the keys to one of their mothers' cars," he said.
"These are adults. One of them threatened to kill me. The defendance of th dants have the capacity to commit horrible acts of violence."

And when he found that the

police inspector assigned to the

threatened us," he said. "It's a way of saying, 'We know who you are and where you live."

Right to silence

District Attorney investigator Ron Huberman told the Bay Area Reporter that such contacts are typical, and that witnesses and crime victims have the right not to talk.

Huberman said that whenever victims or witnesses have ques-tions, they should contact the investigating police officer or the District Attorney investigator assigned to the case when it reaches preliminary hearing.

The witness says now that he knows the investigator has a legit-imate function, he's less intimi-dated, but he still has reservations.

"Who is looking out for the big picture, here?" he asked. "There needs to be someone who has got hold of all the threads here and is

"At the very least, the police should have a little 'So You've Been a Witness to a Crime' packet they could hand out at the scene of crime."

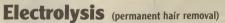
"All I got was a case number."
Huberman also said that Community United Against Violence "walks victims and witnesses through the whole criminal jus-

tice process" by providing advocacy, information, and referral. Perhaps CUAV will fill the gap when it comes to victim services, the witness/victim says. However, for now, "They haven't called me, and I haven't called them.

"That's one of the things I need to do," he said. "My supervisor at work recommended I call."

"We're absolutely interested in assisting him through the process," CUAV executive director Lester Olmstead-Rose told the B.A.R. "He's a witness who saw a horrible gay-bashing and he B.A.R. "Hes a witness who saw a horrible gay-bashing and he stepped forward and has been threatened. We would be very interested in working with him." ▼







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Dunce cap

ell, the inauguration came and went like Graduation Day at a reform school: no amount of promotin the damn thing as a joyous occasion could dispel the palpable sense of shame. Compared to the cool blast of optimism that blew through Clinton's 1992 ceremony, this year's event was muggy with mendacity and compromise.

Even President Bubba seemed sort of out of it, which isn't surprising; he must have been chastened to see what his first four years in office have wrought. The speech he gave this year was completely different from the one he delivered his first time around, and there was no uplifting Maya Angelou poem to stir the nation's soul. Too bad.

Certainly the American people could have used the balm that Angelou's "Morning in America" opus provided four years ago, when her fervent "Good morning!" at the poem's end made everyone think a better day was coming. But we now know better, so she'd Even President Bubba seemed sort of out

coming. But we now know better, so she'd have to add a coda. Now it would be something closer to "Good morning! Now get the

thing closer to "Good morning: Now get me funck up and look for a job!"

For as dreary as this Inauguration Day was, these – here and now – are going to be remembered as the Good Old Days very, very soon. By the middle of summer we fear there will be hundreds of thousands who have no many to extract the measure of the summer the measure to the summer that the summer than the summ means to support themselves or their fami-lies – and those who do have jobs will be living much more in fear of those who do not As the crime rate escalates, remember that it is the natural effect of "welfare reform" as implemented by Clinton and other conserva-tives. And it looks as if the misery is going to be spread even further, in ways that should

be spread even turner, in ways that should horrify anyone with HIV.

The next "reform" on Clinton's agenda seems to be of Medicaid, by (among other things) introducing a cap on the amount of money the program must spend on any given American over the course of a lifetime. Think

about that.

Medicaid, with the meter running.

Every prescription, every doctor's visit, every emergency room visit and ambulance ride would be tallied and subtracted from your account, as if you were withdrawing from the Monopoly banker, except that playing with your health isn't exactly a game, and when the chits run out the game ends in death. Presumably, when people get to the end of their allotment they will be abandoned to their own devices. But presumably the peo-

ple on Medicaid already have no devices left. What are they to do?

This is a totally unreasonable situation for any person to be in while living in this land of such plenty. And if anyone thinks it couldn't happen to them, the evidence **Editorial** points to the contrary. It al-

ready has. Telling a PWA there's no more money forthcoming for his protease in-hibitors is no less reasonable than informing a helpless five-year-old that she has exhaust ed her welfare allotment for life, so there wi be no more checks for her. Or is there a dif-

ference that we're not seeing?

If we made the rules, there would be a limit on the amount of money people would have to spend on healthcare. The government would automatically kick in before a whole family lost everything – college education ac-counts; homes; businesses; burial funds – over one member's catastrophic illness, as over one memoer's catastrophic liness, aroutinely happens in America these days. The notion of that kind of per capita cap is now considered unthinkably Liberal – in the dirtiest sense of the word – here in this country, although it is the policy in virtually every

other world power.

And that explains why there was that dank embarrassed feeling at the inauguration. Everyone kept thinking about how, when Clinton was sworn in four years ago, healthcare re-

form was going to mean a Manhattan Project on AIDS and greater access to ices. This time around it's a war on

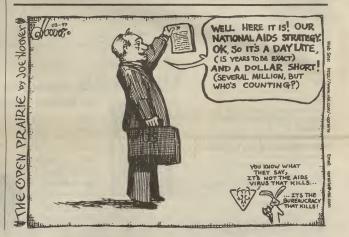
People With AIDS, and access to services only until your per capita cap ends and you're decapitated.

Of course that isn't all the president's fault. The GOP Con-

pressions fatal. The GOF con-gress has been driving this heartless agenda forward, but it is sad to see a Democrat giving in and giving up as he has. We still can't really imagine why America sentenced itself to another session of a presi-

dent and a congress that can't or won't even speak civilly to each other. Perhaps it's because so many voters grew up in what used to be called "broken homes." Have we elected a broken house, divided against itself, just to watch it battle over custody of us? If that's the case, can't we stand up and demand that they pay attention to our needs and stop sacrificpay attention to our needs and stop sacrific-ing us for their momentary ego gratification and greed? Yes, we can. And we must. Before Clinton reveals his plans about Medicaid in early February, anyone who cares

about the future of PWAs had better contact the White House about the unacceptability of per capita caps. Phone (202) 456-1111; FAX (202) 456-2461; e-mail president@white-house.gov or write him at 1600 Pennsylvand Avenue, Washington DC 20500. But however you do it, do it while you still can.



Demand your invitation to the 'cocktail party'

by former San Francisco Supervisor Angela Alioto

AIDS Day, a day dedicated to increasing worldwide awareness of HIV and the devastating impact it has on our lives. Every year I face this day – for it is one to be faced – with strong emotions: a sense of deep loss and sorrow, but also a strong feelof optimism and hope. The optimism is from the recent devel-

The optimism is from the recent development of protease inhibitors and the improvements these new drugs have made in people's lives. For the first time many people with HIV are getting healthier. By taking the new drugs in combination with existing medications such as AZT, these multi-drug "cocktails" have dramatically reduced the automatic death sentence once associated with an HIV diagnosis. There's a good chance that people with HIV now have a better chance of living long and productive lives. The whispering has begun that the end of the HIV pandemic is nigh—I wish could be that optimistic.

be that optimistic.

I still believe that the politics surrounding AIDS is a formidable enemy. Corporate greed and government apathy stall our ef-forts in preventing the spread of HIV and ultimately finding a cure. In my eight years on the Board of Supervisors, I fought hard to make sure that AIDS programs were put into place and were properly funded. I made sure that the list of AIDS drugs was kept up to date so those in need could get the best available treatment. Willie Brown can enavailable treatment. Willie Brown can endear himself to me if he continues to follow through with his early promises regarding ADAP (the AIDS Drug Assistance Program) and other drug programs.

This is crucial. HIV is spreading

most rapidly among groups of peo-ple who do not have access to the cocktail party," since the cover charge to this party exceeds \$25,000 a year. The poor and the uninsured are left stand-ing out in the cold ing out in the cold. **Guest Opinion**

We are relatively for-tunate in San Francisco.

Although the effects of the disease have ravaged the city, the gay population here brought attention early and effectively to AIDS when it was seen as only a gay-specific sexually transmitted disease. Now that we know better, we in the city have cutting-

edge programs to deal with the disease.

But the situation is different in other parts of the country, not to mention the world. No one should be denied access to any medical treatment that will prolong life. let alone save it. Yet pharmaceutical companies, citing the high cost of research and manufacturing in pricing protease in-hibitors, have priced the drugs beyond the reach of the vast majority. They assume in-surance companies will cover the cost for

surance companies will cover the cost for people – and the buck is passed on.

A universal guarantee of access would solve the problem, but welcome to America, folks. "Universal" is a dirty word. Few measures guaranteeing any help to everyone ever make it past the chuckling stage.

And as long as pharmaceutical companies are making money – which thou are lassetter you.

which they are, I assure your gobs of it – their incentive to find an outright cure for HIV is,

to put it delicately, a little dulled.

There is no easy solu-

There is no easy solution here. This is not a question of a few elected officials laying a wreath on the AIDS Quilt or paying lip service to "longer, more productive" lives. The only thing that will work – the only thing that has brought about changes in the past – is the voice of the people, speaking loudly. Louder than the sound of national leaders doing nothing. Louder, even, than the sound of pharmaceutical cash registers ringing.

ringing.

Let's get everyone into the cocktail party and make it a better party.

LETTERS

Sexual choice and responsibility

Private rooms in bathhouses offer gay men op-portunities to make love, even fall in love, fantasize and communicate in a private and in love, fantasize, and communicate in a private and intimate way. Most people want privacy when engaging in lovemaking, including many gay men. Gay men need *more* opportunities to meet, socialize, and make love, not fewer.

portunities to meet, socialize, and make love, not fewer.

Private spaces present better opportunities for many gay men to communicate and negotiate their safe sex standards. (Oral sex may not be safe for everyone. Decide for yourself.) Not all gay men have the luxury of bringing partners to their private homes. There are issues of safety: violence, robbery. Some men are hiding their sexuality from family, friends, roommates, or lovers.

The vast majority of gay men are practicing safe sex by taking responsibility for ourselves. We are not going to change the behavior of the minority, who are having unsafe sex, by restricting and monitoring the majority. The issue is to encourage and empower all gay men to respect ourselves and always be safe. Prohibition did not work with alcohol, and it does not work with drug abuse. Isn't that why we support need le exchange? It is negligent to imply that the DPH or the sex clubs are going to take responsibility for mon-

dle exchange? It is negligent to imply that the DPH or the sex clubs are going to take responsibility for monitoring our sexual behavior.

Having lived in the gay community in San Francisco since 1975, I am proud that in the early '80s, it was gay men in this city who empowered ourselves to take responsibility for ourselves and be safe. Our message then and our message now must be one of self-respect: Getting the facts, and owning the responsibility. Let's reach out to the minority of people who are being unsafe, but do so in creative and sex-positive ways, rather than in controlling and restrictive ways, There are bathhouses in Berkeley, San Jose and hundreds of cities in the U.S. and throughout the world. Let's follow the lead of our Bay Area neighbors, and use the bathhouse environment to reach out, educate and empower sexually active people to be

and empower sexually active people to be

Stop wasting valuable resources

around monitoring: be creative, sympathetic, and non-judgmental to those who have difficulties being safe. And allow the majority of us who are safe to do so in private rooms in a bathhouse, where the intimacy that can be created enhances safe sex negotiations, and where educational information and condoms can be

San Francisco is perceived as the gay capital of the world. We should have a bathhouse that exemplifies self-respect, individual freedom and responsibility, and provides educational services about STDs to its patrons. Not just sex clubs with only monitorable spaces, and no spaces to make love in private, the way many people prefer to make love most of the time.

many people prefer to make love most of the time.

Allow a bathhouse to open. Education produces better results than prohibition. As the DPH does in restaurants, regulate the cleanliness and safety of the facility, but don't try to monitor the eating practices of the patrons!

Richard Carrazza San Francisco

Cattiness

Your January 2 articles by Cynthia Laird and Dennis Conkin were fair and balanced, going beyond rhetoric to explore the complex reality regarding the services and expenses of the SF AIDS Foundation. But if one had failed to read the articles, the headlines and reprinted flier depicting Pat Christen as a cat conveyed a very different position – that Pat Christen and the foundation are somehow evil. That's not fair.

I know it wasn't the B.A.R. that depicted Christen as a cat. Others did. But the imagery is blatantly misogynist and adolescent. It didn't deserve to be reprinted. It's one thing to depict the real enemies of our community in such an unfavorable light. But whether you agree with everything she has done or not, Christen has been working tirelessly and effectively to address this epidemic for many years.

Far be it for me to criticize too much. I've had my issues with the foundation. But I've learned that it is crucial that we keep the tone of these important discussions as professional as possible, and avoid personal attacks.

I have one question regarding the salary issue.

I have one question regarding the salary issue. Why, if our community expects to be treated as first class, do we expect our community-based agencies to operate as second-rate organizations paying below market salaries? The epidemic demands that we are more serious than that

Dana Van Gorden

[Editor's note: Although not a widely-known fact, Mr. Van Gorder is the Health Department's gay and lesbian liaison. This letter defending a straight bureaucrat is the first we've received from him in nearly five years. By the way, to put it in context, Christen's salary two years ago was two-thirds of President Clinton's, and almost six times that of a San Francisco supervisor.]

Dover dispatches

Clearly, much about San Francisco annoys Ron Sapp of Dover, Delaware, as he dispatches a negative review of each of his visits, in a letter to the *B.A.R.*, several times per year. Mr. Sapp's latest note (*Mailstrom*, Dec. 26) whines about flyers and coupons, but he has in the past lamented a wide array of other things, from the homeless situation to a perceived shortage of suitable places to pray.

shortage of suitable places to pray.

As a San Franciscan, I know I'm supposed to welcome visitors. As a human being, I must wonder why any visitor who is so easily and consistently disappointed in our city keeps coming back — unless his

pointed in our city keeps coming back – unless his main purpose in visiting is to accumulate things to grouse about. I also can't fathom why the B.A.R. deems Sapp's prissy critiques worthy of publication. In the spirit of neighborly assistance, I suggest that Sapp spend his next vacation in his home city, where I'm sure he won't be bothered by most of the things that upset him here. And if he were to find himself dissatisfied with anything about Dover (such as its utter lack of gay life), he could then complain to his local gay newspaper (if there were one).

Newsflash, Ronny boy: San Francisco is a city, not a theme park. If you have complaints about the value received for your admission fee, you might want to

received for your admission fee, you might want to reevaluate your expectations. If you're not enjoying your visits, it might just be your own fault

Paul M. Gonzales

Mud in Paradise

Mailstrom

The feeling of letdown Brian Curtis (Mailstrom, n. 9) describes on finding that San Francisco is not Gay Paradise is, I think, symptomatic. Most of us who are gay have migrated here from places less tolerant, or, to put it more truthfully, less indifferent toward homosexuals. We come here

with baggage from negative events that oc-curred to us in those places. Naturally, we curred to us in those places. Naturany, we also come with expectations, vague or specific, realistic or not, about the way this city should be, since, after all, it is the Mecca. When those expectations collide with reality, we react with varying degrees of astonishment, revulsion, anger, liberative, and ultimately resignation.

grees of astonishment, revulsion, anger, bitterness, alienation, and, ultimately, resignation.
But since a community is, in the final analysis, the collective expression of the impulses of its individual members, how is it that this city should be any better than any other urban area where gay men have tried to carve out space for themselves? All of the depressing problems that Curtis describes are undoubtedly real; the alternation between obsessioners and coldreal: the alternation between obsessiveness and coldness in the gay mating dance; the bland sameness of club music and club life; the desperate ritualistic machinery of trying to get laid, whether at a sex club, in a closet at a party at someone's house, or in a restroom in the Embarcadero Center. But is it so different in any other American in the late of the control of the con ferent in any other American city? Is gay life any better in New York, richer in Denver, less numbing in

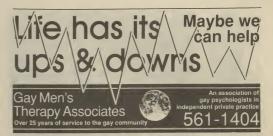
ter in New York, richer in Denver, less numbing in Boston, freer in Seattle, more romantic in Washington D.C., truer to whatever ideal we fantasize in Miami?

What we carry from our pasts and how we address that accretion of experience help decide the shape of our lives as they unfold in the extended present. If we grow up hated, if we grow up hating ourselves, if we grow up hating our identities, our bodies, and our sexualities, being suddenly transplanted in our adulthoods to an arbitrary setting called "the Castro" is hardly going to better us in and of itself, nor is it likely to prevent us from inflicting further ugliness on our surroundings or on those we meet. We throw mud on our paradises because we have had mud thrown at us all our lives.

It is natural to conflate the bad behavior of the

It is natural to conflate the bad behavior of the snotty boys in the bars to the community as a whole. But I have found in my few years in this city that the more I cling to my imagined script of what a gay utopia should be, the more disappointed San Fran-cisco is going to make me. I have dropped my de-fenses and assumptions and taken the patience to sweep through the neon boutiques and overbearing chain stores and the plastic cups with unfinished beer dregs strewn on the sidewalks and the oversized musculatures and the fashion manifestos and the pretty-boy sneers and the perpetual attitude-throwing and the trashy cynicism that passes for wit and the per-sonal advertisements placed by insecure self-loathing men looking for idealized fulfillments of visions they have concocted alone in their bedrooms at night watching mechanized white boy porn stars with smooth chests and shaved balls suck and fuck and moan meaningless rote catch phrases to each other. And I have found, buried in the heap of garbage that is urban gay life in a disoriented, transient, capital-driven, information-saturated, antispiritual, and (it should not be forgotten or minimized) homophobic should not be forgotten or minimized) nomophobic. American society, nuggets of gold. Yes, I might have found nuggets of gold in other places. But they would not have been the same. And I would not have had the opportunity to live in the city of Harvey Milk.

Frank Martinez Lester San Francisco





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Protesting too much

As someone who has been practicing in the Gay/Lesbian Buddhist Community for the past 12 years, I am confused by the front page story you ran in the January 9 issue of the B.A.R. regarding the

Dalai Lama's teaching position on homosexuality. I think Steve Peskind protests too much. A self-ap-pointed leader of the Gay Buddhist Community, Pepointed leader of the Gay Buddhist Community, Peskind certainly does not speak for me, or for The Gay Buddhist Fellowship or its members. No one individual person does. In fact, I'm wondering who this guy thinks he is. And why all the consternation and handwringing about what the Dalai Lama says or doesn't say? Negative views, or our perception of them, about homosexuality, heterosexuality and sexuality in general in Buddhist scripture and teaching are nothing new, and I imagine that the Dalai Lama is as misinformed as most folks about who we are as gay men and lesbians.

and lesbians.

Creating a dialogue with the Dalai Lama through appropriate channels is a more compassionate way to deal with this situation. Challenging him on the front page of a gay publication is arrogant, self-promoting, manipulative and self-serving. I think Steve Peskind is beginning to believe his own hype.

It's more important for say people who are Rud-

It's more important for gay people who are Bud-dhists to support each other's spiritual practice, to care for those among us who are suffering, and to be a compassionate voice in the larger community, than to create a phony ruse to confront one Tibetan Buddhist monk

As the old Zen phrase goes, "If you see the Buddha (or the Dalai Lama) on the path, kill him!"

Daishin David Sunseri

Precepts and prescriptions

In response to your article on the Dalai Lama I did some checking. According to *The Word of the Buddha*, the Five Precepts are: "to abstain from killing living beings... to abstain from taking things not given... to abstain from sexual misconduct... to abstain from

abstain from sexual misconduct... to abstain from false speech... to abstain from intoxicating drinks and drugs causing heedlessness."

The Angustara Nakaya prescribes "no intercourse with such persons as are still under the protection of father, mother, sister or relatives, nor with married. women, nor female convicts, nor betrothed girls." As there is no reference to homosexual acts in this inter-pretation of "sexual misconduct," I assume the Dalai

Lama is speaking based solely on his own authority.

Anyway, I was wondering if these days "sexual mis conduct" would be defined as having "unhealthy sex."

Robert V. Wood San Francisco

Clintonian naysaying

Clintonian naysaying

When the question becomes how to deal with a majority of voters in California and Arizona who believe in the right of sick folks to use marijuana if it helps, our nominally "Democratic" leader President Clinton knows how to "just say no" - to their doctors.

In the course of his presidency, Bill Clinton has found it downright easy to just say no to certain folks. "No" to gays and lesbians in the military, after he heard the top brass blow. "No" to black women, even ones he had appointed, after vote-wielding Southern white politicos piped up. Even "No" to people living with AIDS: he quietly visited the AIDS Memorial Quilt only when it was guaranteed no mainstream press would be present.

To certain other folks he has a far harder time answering in the negative. F-16 bombers for the bloody government of Indonesia to use against their own people? "No" seems too difficult a word to use when large Asian campaign donations abound. Or when a potential rival, the Attorney General from California, threatens to make him look weak on drug law enforcement, Bill is quick to slide in under the conservative platform. What a great stealth ticket for the GOP nomination when he crawls out again: Lungren and Clinton in 2000. Clinton in 2000.

Mark Freeman

Kudos to the Oakland School District for intro-ducing Ebonics as a language. I suggest that the San Francisco School District do the same for "Quonics" (i.e. queer phonics), as many people in the Bay Area have grown up with "fag hags," dykes, and others using "Quonics" as such: "Mary, if that swish doesn't call me soon, I'm going to read her beads. I haven't dished the dirt with that Auntie in a queen's age..." Words like "camp," and "out of the closet" and "butch" have become commonplace in hetero sit-

"butch" have become commonplace in hetero sit-coms. We own our language, so let's claim it – for Harvey Milk, for Sylvester, and for Divine. A people, united, will NEVER be defeated! Language is a virus... Quonics is the vaccine.

Tony Haze

No dream date

No dream date

I was sorry to read the criticisms of ACT UP/Golden Gate in Laura Stack's "Dissident Information" letter January 2. I personally welcomed Laura to both ACT UP/Golden Gate and to the Immune Based Therapy Breakfast Club.

ACT UP/Golden Gate meets Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. Meetings frequently last past 11:30 p.m. The meeting agenda is made up from the people attending the meeting, at the meeting. Attendance is frequently over 40 people. Agenda items are allocated a certain amount of time for discussion by the person putting forward the item. There is a facilitator who putting forward the item. There is a facilitator who makes sure that everyone has an opportunity to speak, and that no one monopolizes the meeting. Laura was welcomed to our meetings and parties. Laura was welcomed to our meetings, and partici-pated under the same conditions as all other partici-

pants.

The Immune Based Therapy Breakfast Club meets every other Saturday morning at the AU/GG offices. This meeting is open to people interested in increasing their knowledge of immunology, and this is intended to be an advanced forum for people who already have a solid foundation in basic immunology. People who do not have a solid foundation are also welcome, but are encouraged to obtain a copy of *Kuby's Immunology*, the textbook by Janis Kuby which the club has found to be the most readable reference book for self-study—it is the foundation text shared by the group. New members are encouraged to call group members for assistance in learning the basics, outside of the formal meeting structure. Assistance is available for people with AIDS who cannot afford to buy the book. In addition to mentoring, the IBTBC also holds an all-day Immunology 101 seminar perialso holds an all-day Immunology 101 seminar peri-odically. The most recent one was held on Saturday, September 28, 1996.

Laura came to us because she had had a dream where she envisioned the virus and immune system cells to resemble a "lock and a key." She felt that there cells to resemble a Tock and a key. She relt that there was a way to stop the virus based on this vision. I personally offered to help Laura, outside of the group meetings, to learn basic immunology. She told me that she was an "idea" person and not much interested in the details. She was invited to the Immunology 101 seminar to learn the basics of immunology, but did not attend.

did not attend.

If anyone believes that AIDS is going to go away as a result of a vision alone, they are sadly mistaken. Thomas Edison once said that Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration. This recent letter to the B.A.R. regarding "Dissident Information" is one more example of a dangerous demagoguery. Unfounded criticisms do nothing to help people with AIDS. I would suggest that people do some academic homework.

AU/GG, IBTBC San Francisco

He loves a man in a uniform

He loves a man in a uniform

As an avid admirer of men in uniform, especially police officers, I fail to see why a small handful of outrageous extremists are making such a melodramatic issue about Officer Joe Bannon being a narc. Hello? Has anyone forgotten the fact that Mr. Bannon is a law enforcement individual? If I'm not mistaken, I do believe that he was just doing his job. A job that the City of San Francisco is paying him to carry out as assigned. And who cares if he is or is not employed by the Cafe? What does it matter? He has the right to work another job, should he decide to do so. And I do not think that it is fair to blame the Cafe or its owner for hiring anyone just because a few pro-potheads disapprove of that particular individual. I am proud to admit that I do not smoke marijuana It is a crying shame that more than ninety percent of the population of San Francisco cannot say the same. I have so many friends that feel they need to smoke marijuana. One should only partake of the act when the use of marijuana has been prescribed to them by a doctor for urgent, medicinal purposes.

As for anyone who is against Officer Joe Bannon, I just have one thing to say: "Leave him alone. He was only doing his job." That's something most people who like to get high don't even have, a job.

Ben Julian Foster City, CA

[Those who look past the bulging thighs in that uniform, at why it connotes such power, find it is because it implies that the officers are themselves "uniform," and part of a larger machine that protects us. As long as that is the case, cops have a right to the respect they need to their jobs. When they violate that understanding by undertaking actions against the intentions of their superiors — by not just "doing their job" — they lose that respect in the eyes of some people.]

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Rumbles in race for Sacramento

by Wayne Friday

s inaugural festivities were sweeping the nation's capi-tal this past weekend, one of the most discussed topics on the D.C. cocktail circuit was next year's California gubernatorial race. Previously, Senator **Dianne**Feinstein, the clear Democratic favorite for 1998, had been telling friends and reporters that she friends and reporters that she wasn't going to make a decision about running until the end of this year, However, last week she was telling reporters that she would now decide by mid-sum-

mer.
Feinstein's new timetable could mean one of two things – either she is leaning against a run and wants to get out of the way of others who are waiting on her decision, or she has decided to run and make her intentions known. and make her intentions known earlier than previously planned. This last would discourage other

Ihis last would discourage e-prospective candidates from joining the fray.
For instance, state Controller Kathleen Connell, a successful Los Angeles business-woman completing her first term in that office, has made it clear that despite a re-**Our Man Friday** cent disrup-

tion in her personal life (she and her hus band have separated), she is still thinking of seeking the Demo gu-bernatorial nod. Indeed, the controller is said to have raised over

\$1 million for that purpose.

Connell was busy telling reporters this week that she was getting "a lot of pressure" to enter the governor's race. Some political observers believe that perhaps the "pressure" comes mostly from Connell's family and maybe even herself. It is not thought that the controller would enter a contest that might pit her against Dianne Feinstein, since she would be forced to give up the office she now holds to run against a better-known, better-financed oppo-

DiFi herself was telling reporters in Washington last week that she was "just coming back" into the swing of things after her '94 re-election campaign against the deep pockets (\$27 million) of Michael Huffington. Some who spoke with the senator came away convinced that her heart wasn't in yet another statewide election ef-fort next year – while others tell me that in private she seemed "ex-cited" about the idea. Another interesting develop-

ment in the Democratic race for governor is the possible candida-cy of Los Angeles multimillionaire businessman Alfred A. Checci, a total political unknown who is said to be "exploring" the race and has even hired some big-name Democratic consultants like **Bob** Shrum, Daryl Sragow and poll-ster Mark Penn. Other than a couple of stories in the LA Times, Checci, the co-chair of Northwest Checci, the co-chair of Northwest Airlines who is said to have a per-sonal fortune in the \$500 million range, has had little publicity and would need to spend a small for-tune to become a viable candi-date. (Interestingly enough, Sena-tor Feinstein's husband, **Richard Blum** is a major reschedder in Blum, is a major stockholder in



Keepin' 'em guessing: DiFi on the campaign trail in 1990.

Northwest Airlines and is said to be on a "friendly" basis with Mr.

The Democratic Party is hun-gry for a chance to take back the statehouse after 16 years, and with Dianne Feinstein clearly the fa-vorite candidate to accomplish

that task, you can look for pressure to really start to build within the next few weeks. Will she do it? I'll go out on a limb and predict here that Di-anne Feinstein becomes

an announced candidate for

Ganddate for governor of California by no later than mid-June, whips **Gray Davis** in the Demo primary, and kicks **Dan Lungren**'s ultra-conservative, right-wing, homophobic, bornagain ass in next year's general election.

Politics and people

Senator Barbara Boxer's staff is hoping against hope that Dianne Feinstein, probably the most popular Democrat in the state, is on the ticket when Boxer has to run for re-election next year.

California State Treasurer
Matt Fong is telling friends that Mayor Susan Golding in next year's GOP primary for the right to oppose Senator Boxer. President Bill Clinton begins " to battle San Diego

his second term with a very respectable 62 percent approval rating, matching that of only **Ronald Reagan** when Reagan began his second term, according to a *USA Today*/CNN/Gallup Poll released

on Inaugural Day.
Clinton proved a real class act
by presenting his defeated opponent, Republican **Bob Dole**, with
the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, last week. Good politics and a good start for your second term, Mr. President. A rumor has San Jose's Mayor

Susan Hammer "interested" in the lieutenant governor's race next year. Hey, it seems to be the right time for women politicos in California.

Remember the gangly, awk-ward Chelsea Clinton of four years ago? Those ugly braces, silly grin, and all? Well, Ms. Clinton is now an attractive, "grown-up" 17-year-old who's headed for college this fall. All who know her, friends and reporters alike, say she is a "classy young woman" who was "brought up" just fine by Bill and

One of my political favorites, former Massachusetts Senator

(and presidential hopeful) Paul (and presidential hopefui) Paul Tsongas, who passed last week due to cancer, was fond of telling audiences that "I grew up in a disadvantaged home – both of my parents were Republicans."

A reader writes me that "Governor Pete Wilson isn't so mean-

spirited after all; although he calls for more drastic cuts in welfare

for more drastic cuts in welfare for the poor, he proposes increasing welfare for corporations by cutting their taxes 10 percent."

My latest JFK, Jr. item: The hunk son of the late president, himself a "diehard Democrat," recently gave NYC Republican Mayor Rudy Giuliani a \$2,000 re-

election donation.

Former Clinton campaign spokeswoman Ann Lewis, the sister of Rep. Barney Frank (she has many friends among San Francisco Dems), will soon be named deputy White House communications director.

Hey, you guys down at City Hall, give Supe Barbara Kauf-man a chance. I mean, Sue Bierman is one of my favorites, too, but Kaufman won the board pres-idency, didn't she? Besides, there were too many board committees, anyway. Damn, could some people at City Hall already be getting nervous that Supervisor Kaufman might just be thinking about the

might just be thinking about the mayor's office?

Jeff Sheehy was re-elected president of the Milk Club Democrats. I wish we had more dedicated gay activists like him.

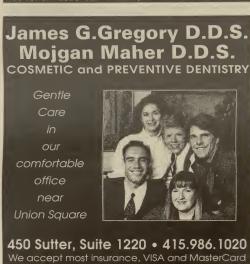
A belated but appreciative "farewell" to Supervisor Angela Alioto. We miss you already, Angela. Hurry back – and don't be a stranger. stranger.

Friends and supporters of new Board of Education member Juanita Owens are throwing a celebration to help pay off her campaign debt this coming Monday, Jan. 27, at 153 Sanchez St., 5:30-7:30 p.m. (\$100 donation asked; 431-0885 for info).

When Broadway favorite Liza
"With a Z" Minnelli opened in her first performance of Victor/Victoria last week for a two-month run (temporarily re-placing star Julie Andrews), she vas stunned to find no less than 92 bouquets awaiting her back-stage, plus another 27 arrange-ments at her hotel. The always generous Minnelli, a devoted AIDS volunteer, promptly sent them all to AIDS wards at St. Vin-cent's and St. Clare hospitals. I intend to follow in the same

spirit, and urge you to join me in starting off 1997 by sending a check (no matter how large or how small) to your favorite AIDS organization this week. Maybe this will be The Year of the Cure.







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Follow the money

by Beth Elliott

hat's what Deep Throat said to Woodward and said to Woodward and Bernstein, which advice unraveled the Watergate scandal. In catching up with the local madness, I'm finding this tactic helpful in many ways. Applying it to recent local events helps balance writing about my experience as a Western lesbian in Nepal with my continuing lust for pulling the rug out from under knee-jerk groupthink.

Actually, this latter pursuit has gone global anyway – I first read of the Oakland School Board's Ebonics caper in the daily Kath-

Ebonics caper in the daily Kath-mandu Post. Follow the money. My Alameda County tax money has gone to spin doctors trying to convince us the School Board didn't really say what their reso-lution, as reported in Bay Area

newspapers, says in plain standard English.
Follow the money. Recognizing that Ebonics-speaking children come to school with language skills, and teaching them

rainbow

the English language skills that will afford them a future while not making them feel inferior, are good ideas. This can be accomplished without lining edu-crat pockets for special pro-grams. (Anyone for "Phonics, not Ebonics?") But that may not be the point – follow the money. And to throw a curveball (an-

And to throw a curveball (another continuing lust), here's an item that has nothing to do with money and everything to do with other forms of clout:

No Irish Need Apply Dept.:
This space is mightily miffed to have learned the Women's Building is evicting the Dovre Club, especially so soon after the death of proprietor Paddy Nolan. I guess multiculturalism and support for the politics of national guess multiculturalism and support for the politics of national liberation don't extend to people of Irish descent (like myself); the Dovre Club has been a "neighborhood living room" for diverse Mission District folk, and an outpost of support for a united Ireland (i.e., free of British occupation). Perhaps someone should ask Women's Building management, which has refused

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to meet with Nolan's successors, what its stand on tenants' rights is, heh heh.

Meanwhile, Back in the Jun-

gle (ah, ah, ah-ah ah!): Our group's next excursion in Nepal was made more comfortable (at least for your correspondent) by some Western hiking gear: the Sani-Fem™ Urinary the Sant-Fem W Urinar System, a wonderful funnel and tube device that made tapping a kidney while traveling much less awkward, messy, and exposure-intensive.
The only this The only th thing

squatting to pee behind a bush is that I

bee beinful abush is that I can never manage without some of it running down my leg. So, on the road to the Kali shrine at Dakshinkali, up in the hills above Kathmandu, I gave this little gizmo its baptism by, uh, whatever. I am happy to report: We have the technology! Or, as I said at the time to the other women taking advantage of the pit stop for more than the gorgeous views of the Valley with Himalayas in the background: it's a good thing this works in the field, because you can't exactly give it a dry run.

Meanwhile, Back in the States (Bomp, doo-ooo wop! Bomp,

Meanwhile, Back in the States (Bomp, doo-ooo wop!), or Poetic Injustice Dept.: I'd bought my Sani-Fem at REI on San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley, across from the Ashkenaz and its banner reading, "Tax the rich till there ain't no more rich." Shortly after returning from Nepal, I read of the Ashkenaz's owner, David Nadel, being murdered by a man he'd expelled from a dance that night for unruly behavior. The suspect (described by police as a 20-year-old illegal immigrant from Mexico) returned with a gun, knocked on the door, and shot Nadel in the head.

I'm sorry for Nadel, his family, friends, and admirers. His

ly, friends, and admirers. His

murder was all the more tragic murder was all the more tragic for what some consider his own advocacy of violence – his call for using government bully boys to confiscate the wealth of any-one with more than others. It's one thing to demand a fair share of the cost of having government do what we hire it to do; keep us

secure in our persons, property, and liberties. Using government to con-fiscate property – ab-sent serious violation of another citizen's person, property, and liberty – is in itself such a Sapphistication serious viola-

tion. Failure tion. Failure to "share" wealth that is fairly created – in effect, failure to exist and labor for others – can be construed as such a crime only by denying that human beings are endowed by nature with certain inalienable rights such as life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Make such a denial, and you undercut the entire and you undercut the entire moral and philosophical basis of

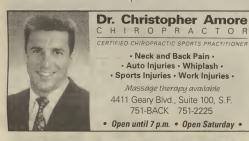
moral and philosophical basis of our struggle for lesbian/ gay (etc.) rights.

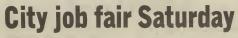
I'm sorry Nadel was mur-dered. I'm especially sorry he be-came an martyr to (not for) his Berkeley "progressive" political theory. It would appear his killer flouted immigration law to hang in Berkeley, refused to assimilate

into culturally appropriate behavior for Ashkenaz, and acted on an alternative moral code dictating a physical response to a public dissing (as even New York's Republican Mayor Giuliani says, open immigration brings America moral benefits). Meanwhile, Back in the Jungle: I'd hoped to bring to Kali's altar a lock of hair from a recently departed crone friend and teacher (yep, literally a "crony"). But having gone to Dakshinkali on a major sacrifice day, there was no way to make my dark-of-the-moon offering in the quiet, contemplative way I'd envisioned. There was an assembly line of locals carrying critters to line of locals carrying critters to the altar to have their throats slit; Kali gets the blood, her pilgrims take the carcass home for a ritu-al meal. Indian movie music blares from a tinny PA system all the while. Kali's grove felt very powerful, but this Western pagan

could not have focused there.

We spent the afternoon in Patan, across the river south of Kathmandu. Two gorgeous Buddha shrines (accessed through obscure, narrow passageways). Another stunning Durbar Square, and a rooftop cafe from which to enjoy it. The music on the restaurant stereo sounded fa-miliar. Turns out it was a local musician with Jerry Garcia sitting in. Go fig. At 120 rupees (\$2.18), I bought a tape. ▼





by Dennis Conkin

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you're a San Francisco resident who thinks you could do a better job than many Muni drivers – and who doesn't? – or you merely want to land a civil service clerical job in a city de-partment, the City and County of San Francisco Job and Career Fair this Saturday, January 25 is just

for you.

As estimated 35 city depart-As estimated 35 city depart-ments are participating in the daylong job fair at Moscone Cen-ter South, where employment po-sitions are open for bus drivers and gardeners and custodians, and applications are being accept-ed for a wide variety of other po-sitions, from entry level positions on up.

on up.
"We expect between 3,000 and 5,000 people," said fair co-organizer Rebecca Prozan, a staffer for

Mayor Willie Brown.
Prozan acknowledged that "there's a mystery about how to apply for jobs with the city," and that many San Francisco residents don't understand what the different city departments do. "The Fair ent city departments do. "The Fair is a wonderful opportunity for San Franciscans to learn more about their own government – which is the largest employer – and about how to apply for and get civil service positions," she said.

Fairgoers will be able to watch a video presentation introducing them to city jobs and to the city's hiring process. Department representatives will be on-site to answer specific questions about possess.

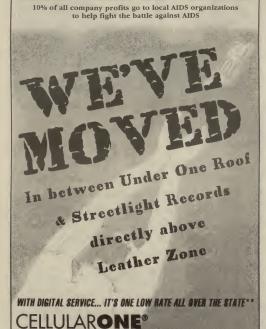
sentatives will be on-site to an-swer specific questions about po-sitions, or the hiring process for applicants, Prozan said. "We hope it's very successful," said Marsha Ramirez of the De-partment of Human Resources. "I don't know that there has ever heen a citwide job fair."

been a citywide job fair."

Specialized career guidance and development advice will also

and development advice will also be offered to youths interested in future careers with the city.

The San Francisco City and County Job and Career Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Moscone Convention Center-South. For more information about the Fair contact Purvan at about the Fair, contact Pruzan at (415) 554-6141. ▼





TAX ASSISTANCE

'Ellen' action called

Her closet may be swinging shut!

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

BC Television may be slamming shut Ellen's closet door forever. ABC has decided to put Ellen on hiatus during March and April. ABC Entertainment President Jamie Tarses said that the network has yet to decide whether on Elles coming. decide whether an Ellen coming out episode (which has as yet not been taped) will air. Radical reli-gious groups are taking advantage of this unfortunate turn of events

of this unfortunate turn of events by mounting an unprecedented campaign of pressure against ABC and Disney. Following Tarses's statement, Ellen Morgan sang her way out of the closet during the January 10 taping of the show. In the episode, Ellen attends a rock 'n' roll fanta-Eilen attends a rock 'n' roll fantasy camp, where she performs a song, which she penned, called "I'm Scared of Being Afraid." In the third take of the song, the Morgan character crooned, "So here's what I have to say ... And by the way, I'm gay! It's okay!" As the studio audience cheered, she ended the song with the refrain, "I'm gay! I'm gay! I'm gay! I'm gay! I'm gay! It spokesperson for Ellen indicated that the take was an unscripted, spontaneous improvisation by DeGeneres and would not air.

air. The coming out song seems to make clear DeGeneres's intention to let her character out of the closet. It also may highlight her frustration with the show being placed on hiatus and Tarses's waffling on whether or not to let the character out. On January 14, the radical religious American Family Association issued a release urging people to demand that Disney ing people to demand that Disney follow the AFA's hate agenda and force Ellen Morgan to stay in her

Meanwhile, due to ABC's waf-Meanwhile, due to ABCs war-fling, Internet activists on Prodi-gy have started a campaign to send ABC waffle coupons, pic-tures of waffles, packets of waffles, and homemade waffle recipes via snail mail and e-mail. Only the lesbian and gay community and its supporters can turn the situa-tion around. Do not let religious radicals control what you can watch on television— let Ellen

Please join in the Prodigy campaign. Also, write letters and call both ABC and Disney insisting that ABC let Ellen out and renew its commitment to diversity and inclusion in its programming.

Contact: Michael Eisner,

Chairman and Dean Valentine, President of Network TV and resident of Network TV and Television Animation, Walt Dis-ney Company, 500 South Buena Vista Street, Burbank, CA 91521, phone: 818.560.1000, fax: 818.560-1930, email/WWW: http://www. disney.com/Mail. For ABC: Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC Television Network, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com. For sponsor contacts and more infor mation, visit the GLAAD website at www.glaad.org.

San Francisco Chronicle covers gay asylum issues

In the January 13 San Francis-co Chronicle, a front-page story highlighted a host of situations in

which lesbians and gay men are which lesbians and gay men are seeking political asylum in the U.S. "Even as the federal and state governments take steps to restrict immigration and halt the flow of foreigners arriving here illegally," it states, "a growing number of gays and lesbians are applying forand winning-political asylum because of persecution based on

cause of persecution based on their sexual orientation." The story explains how in 1994 Attorney General Janet Reno is-sued a memo declaring that the Immigration and Naturalization Service and immigration judges should begin to recognize sexual orientation as a legitimate class orientation as a legitimate class for protection from political persecution. Since then, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) and other groups have seen success in protecting the rights of those seeking

asylum from torture, rape and abuse experi-enced in countries around the globe.

While some anti-

immigrant groups have attacked this use of asylum law, Sydney Levy of IGLHRC states, "This is a fair and appro-priate application of the law, not a great expansion of it." Personal stories of asylumees and specific applications of the law are included in the story as well.

While immigration has be-come a major theme in the media as the federal and many state gov-ernments continue to restrict im-migration and care for immihas rarely discussed how lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people are affected. By opening examination of lesbian and gay asylum issues, the Chronicle

gay asylum issues, the Chronicle brings attention to an important issue of social justice. Please thank the San Francisco Chronicle for a balanced and in-formative article on this underreported issue.

Contact: William German, Ed-San Francisco Chronicle 901 Mission Street, San Francis-co, CA 94103-2988, fax: 415.543.7708, e-mail: chronletGospel according to E.J.

In the January 9 Arizona Republic, E.J. Montini wrote a column entitled, "So Sayeth the Bible," in which the author chal-Bible," in which the author challenges the ways that members of radical religious groups selectively use the Bible to suit their own anti-gay agenda. Montini focuses on one state legislator in particular, Rep. Karen Johnson (R-Mesa), and her recent attempts to ban gay organizations from public schools and universities and declare sodomy a Class sities and declare sodomy a Class

6 felony.
"Her Bible tells her that homo-"Her Bible tells her that homosexuality is an abomination," the writer says. "To her, gays are sinners, if not criminals. Johnson may be an elected official, but she follows what she'd call a 'higher law'. ... I differ with Johnson not because she's a

son not because she's a zealot who goes too far, but because she's a zealot who doesn't go

AD Montini suggests that Johnson feels she is interpreting the Bible literally, and should be thor-

Bible literally, and should be thorough in that conviction: "If Johnson truly believes what she says, she'll also push for a law prescribing the death penalty, as the Bible does, for anyone who works on the Sabbath [and demand] that a person who commits adultery be stoned to death. In Mark 10:11, anyone who gets married after disanyone who gets married after di-vorce is committing adultery. If that were made into law, we'd be able to rid ourselves of one in-dicted governor and at least one ornery U.S. Senator, not to men-tion the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives."

Finally, Montini notes that as a woman, Rep. Johnson is herself at odds with her guiding text. Ac-cording to Timothy, 2:11-12, "Let a woman learn in silence with all submissiveness," and not "teach or have authority over men; she is to keep silent.

Contact: Pam Johnson, Managing Editor, Arizona Republic, P.O. Box 2244, Phoenix, AZ 85002, fax: 602.271.8933, e-mail: opinions@aol.com.

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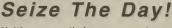
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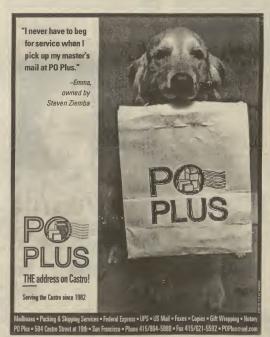




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Are we blue?

by David Bianco

This week in gay history: A Congressional Special Committee releases its report on the "Blue Discharges" January 30, 1946.

hat were "blue dis-charges"? During the Second World War, military personnel who were removed from service who were removed from service because of suspected or confirmed homosexuality were often given "Section Eight" discharges on blue paper, which became known as "blue discharges." The struggles of lesbian and gay veterans to overcome the discrimination and prejudice related to their blue discharges were among the first organization.

charges were among the first orga-nized political struggles by gays and lesbians in the United States. Army psychologist William C. Menninger described the typical situation as follows: "A man on his own initiative, or because of no-ticeable difficulty in adjusting himself, might visit or be sent to a psychiatrist for consultation.

When it was found that the basis of the difficulty was homosexuality, if this was reported to his commanding officer, the man probably received a blue discharge, or perhaps would be tried. Objections to this were raised by many homosexual individuals, whose request for help from a medical homosexual individuals, whose request for help from a medical officer ended up in a discharge 'without honor.' This action undermined confidence in medical officers. Furthermore, the Army required that doctors report even those statements given in confidence in a consultation room."

Blue discharges - which were

Blue discharges - which were also given for non-gay-related rea-sons - fell in a category between dishonorable discharges (which were usually given to military per-sonnel convicted of homosexual sonnel convicted of homosexual acts) and honorable discharges (which were sometimes available to gay and lesbian soldiers with otherwise impeccable records). Still, they carried with them the stigma of less-than-honorable service as well as practical obstacles for the gay and straight soldiers and sailors who received them. Blue dischargees (whose stories are told in detail in Allan Berube's Coming Out Under Fire) would be Coming Out Under Fire) would be stripped of their uniforms and medals and forced to return in medals and forced to return in shame to the draft boards of their home communities to present their discharge papers. The military justified these procedures in part as a way of discouraging straight soldiers from feigning homosexuality to evade service.

But the worst indignity of the blue discharges was the denial of benefits under the GI Bill. Veterans with honorable discharges received thousands of dollars in monetary

with nonorable discharges received thousands of dollars in monetary benefits in the areas of education, housing, and credit - but the Vet-erans Administration refused to make such benefits available to

make such benefits available to those with blue discharges.

Approximately one-fifth of the blue-discharge veterans were African-American, in part because some racist commanders used the blue discharge as a way to punish black soldiers and sailors in their command. In response to this inequity, black leaders - led by the black newspaper The Pittsburgh Courier - urged Americans to pressure the government to bring relief to those denied benefits because of their blue discharges.

Many did, including gay and

Many did, including gay and Many did, including gay and lesbian veterans who resented their blue discharges. One lesbian former officer wrote an anonymous letter to the Army publication Yank in which she complained of having received a blue discharge when a lesbian affair was discovered. She wrote, "The public in general is uneducated in the psychology of handling my type of discharge, hence I find it embarrassing and impossible to elucidate upon just why I left the [Women's Army Corps]."

A congressional subcommittee chaired by Congressman Carl T. Durham of North Carolina investigated the situation, and its report (released on January 30, 1946) found fault with the system that punished the blue dis-

that punished the blue dis-chargees without any due process chargees without any due process. It even singled out gay dischargees as victims of unfair treatment, charging that the Veterans Administration should be stopped "from passing moral verdicts on the history of any soldier." Blue discharges should be abolished, the report concluded.

The combination of public pressure and the Durham commitments and the Durham commitments and the Durham commitments are supported to the processor of the processor o

The combination of public pressure and the Durham committee's report led to a temporary reprieve for holders of blue discharges, many of whom found success by appealing their individual cases. And in May 1947, the Army abolished the blue discharges altogether, replacing it in most cases with a general discharge for unsuitability. But the good news was not shared by gays and lesbians, who were specifically excluded from receiving general discharges. More than one observer has linked this exclusion with the growing this exclusion with the growing concern about rivalry with the So-

viet Union, in which gays were seen as potential security risks. Without such public "scarlet letters," many gay and lesbian vet-erans would otherwise have re-turned to the closet or perhaps op-posite, say marriages and convenposite-sex marriages and conven-tional lives. But the very public discriminatory treatment itself led to group consciousness, as experi-ence of the blue-discharges led to ence of the blue-discharges led to a growing sense among American gays and lesbians that they were a minority group that suffered official prejudice. Although it took another several years for such specific language to be applied to their situation, gays and lesbians were already beginning to band together to discuss and address their challenges in society. ir challenges in society. 🔻

David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. The author of Modern Jewish History for Everyone, he can be reached care of the Bay Area Reporter or through his Femail Reporter or through his E-mail address: AriBianco@aol.com.



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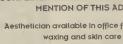
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No more Berdache, it's now Q Spirit

Spiritual group changes name, adds women's affiliate

by Cynthia Laird

erdache, a San Francisco gay men's group formed in 1995 that focuses on per-1995 that focuses on personal growth and spirituality, is launching 1997 with a new name -Q Spirit - and a new women's affiliate, Q Spirit Women. The women's group will hold its inaugural meeting Wednesday, January 29 with a multimedia presentation of one woman's life story presented by Betty McAfee. McAfee, 72, lives in Berkeley and is an independent photographer, filmmaker, videographer, filmmaker, videographer, miter, poet, and multimedia producer. Retired after teaching in public schools for 20 years, she is currently a faculty member at Matthew Fox's University of Creation Spirituality in Oakland.

Matthew Fox's University of Creation Spirituality in Oakland.

Her presentation, entitled "Waking Up," is a series of poems illuminated with slides and set to music from the various stages of her life. She poignantly describes coming out as a lesbian later in life, as well as coming to terms with her spirituality.

with her spirituality.

"Telling stories is a political act as we try to understand who we are in relation to a responsible existence in an interdependent universe," McAfee said.

A unique aspect to McAfee's presentation is that as she tells her

presentation is that as she tells her story she evokes participants' individual stories, too. "We all realize we are part of the human story."

Q Spirit's mission - for both the men's and women's groups - is to foster personal growth and spiritual development in the queer community.

"By creating a space for people to explore their spirituality in harmony with their sexuality, Q Spirit will promote a deepening and an expansion of gay and lesbian identity," said Christian de la Huerta, the group's founder.

bian identity," said Christian de la Huerta, the group's founder. Monthly gatherings of the Q Spirit groups will include lectures, guest speakers, performances, and focused discussions, as well as rit-ual, meditation, and the possibil-ity of connecting with others of like mind and shared interests. All spiritual paths and traditions will

like mind and shared interests. All spiritual paths and traditions will be honored, de la Huerta said.

In addition to the separate gatherings of the men's and women's groups, the two will join together occasionally for particular events or celebrations. "Spiritin Action," a monthly community service project, will also be shared by both groups, de la Huerta said.

Reclaiming spirituality

Q Spirit, the parent organiza-tion encompassing both the men's and women's groups, is conceived as an umbrella association sup-porting other individuals and groups dedicated to promoting the psychospiritual healing of the queer community. "Many lesbians and gay men have, understandably, rejected

"Many lesbians and gay men have, understandably, rejected anything having to do with religion or spirituality because of the persecution, ostracism, and condemnation they have encountered in traditional religions," de la Huerta said. "Q Spirit seeks to provide a space for lesbians and gay men to explore, reclaim, and find appropriate means of expression for our spirituality.
"Our thesis is that in so doing, a deeper sense of identity and a

a deeper sense of identity and a

pervasive experience of self-respect and respect for others will be engendered," de la Huerta added.

The group aims to support les-bians and gay men in their efforts to reclaim their spiritual heritage, thereby helping them to integrate rejected aspects of their humanity, in particular their spirituality and

in particular their spirituality and sexuality.

Q Spirit Men meets the third Wednesday of each month, while Q Spirit Women meets on the fourth Wednesday. ▼

Meetings are held at Metropolitan Community Church- San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street. McAfee's presentation will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. There is a \$10 per person suggested donation. For more information, call (415)



Berkeley's Betty McAfee



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Rich Gordon up and running hard for San Mateo Supe

by Marv. Shaw

mmediately acting upon his recently announced run for the San Mateo County Board the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, openly gay candidate Rich Gordon has hired a company of political consultants, set an opening rally, gathered endorsements, and made further plans for his campaign. Gordon recently spoke with the B.A.R. about the details of that campaign, which will culminate on April 8 with the election for a seat vacated by Ted Lempert, who was elected to the State Assembly.

The firm of Staton, Hughes.

The firm of Staton, Hughes, and Shafer will guide the cam-paign, with SHS employee Alex Behrend acting as Gordon's im-mediate aide. Gordon said he hired the campaign group because the race on the supervisor level is much more intense than his suc-cessful campaign for a seat on the county board of education. His present efforts require both more effort and more technical know-how, especially in preparing and distributing printed material. By way of showing something of the costs of such an election,

Gordon stated that even the candidate profile of 2,200 words in



Gay candidate Rich Gordon's résumé boasts 20 years of public service

the official voter handbook, which is mailed to every registered voter, costs \$6,000! When asked how he intends to

apply the philosophy of public service he cited in a November interview with the B.A.R. – a plan of drawing into cooperation people in various fields to master politi-cal, social, and economic matters cal, social, and economic matters

- Gordon gave an example of an
oncoming problem, efficient
management of welfare.

Acknowledging first that San
Mateo County is lucky to have

only a two percent unemploy-ment figure, Gordon stated that the unemployed are largely single mothers whose husbands have mothers whose husbands have abandoned the family. While these women desire to work and are able to do so, affordable care for their children is a problem. Gordon is ready to enlist fellow county politicians and influential members of the private sector, in-cluding the area's churches, to combine to provide such care and compensate for the money the

state will no longer supply.

This example is illustrative of the qualities Gordon feels will most effectively promote his can-didacy, skills he has developed in 20 years of public service in the area. He is prepared to demonstrate such successes from the background of his work in the Youth and Family Assistance agency and his post on the country.

ty board of education. One signal achievement from the latter is Gordon's preservation of continued schooling for trou-bled youth, a facility in danger of elimination when he came on the board. The official figures show that 75 percent of the first offenders committed to such an educaers committed to such an educational institution do not re-appear on a second offense. "The personal and social worth of this resource is obvious," he averred.

Gay and lesbian issues

On political objectives directly On political objectives directly affecting gay men and lesbians, Gordon cited first a strengthening of the county's AIDS program, which could mean a channeling of more local money—in addition to federal and state funds—into the effort. An improved breast cancer effort, he said, would add to better

"Also," Gordon indicated,
"inasmuch as a large portion of
the county's gay and lesbian population is partnered, it would be

psychologically worthwhile to psychologically worthwhile to work out programs to deal with domestic violence in gay house-holds." Similarly, development of gay adoption and parenting pro-igrams would be helpful, he be-lieves.

Gordon was skeptical about the likelihood that opposition would come from homophobic sources. "I simply don't feel any," he replied thoughtfully, "though I would be stupid to assume there is none." How would he and his consultants handle such slurs if they appeared? Gordon said they would be handled on a case-by-case basis, depending on the sources and other circumstances.

sources and other circumstances.
"But I am confident," he stated
emphatically, "none will come
from my opponents."
His two major rivals are Jim
Tucker, a Republican defeated by
Lempert for the open Assembly
seat, and Denise de Ville, a prominent businesswoman who is curresulty president of the Half Moon nent ousinesswoman who is cur-rently president of the Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce. Tucker has a name recognition advantage and has served on the Daly City Council. Both have resources among the county busi-ness and development communi-

Gordon feels that he can match his two rivals' strengths, citing particularly his president-elect status of the Redwood City Chamber of Commerce.

Supporters and events

Gordon's declared supporters already include the San Mateo County Central Labor Council, and he has strong backing from the educational community, through his projects on the County Board of Education, especially the introduction of electronic aids into classrooms.

the introduction of electronic aids into classrooms.

Gordon is also counting on support from BAYMEC (Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee), gay political activists, and the local Democratic Party. His campaign has filed an application for funds with the national Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

Gordon's individual endorsers include Ted Lempert, Anna Eshoo, Lou Papan, and Jackie Speier.

Some of his endorsers will appear tomorrow night (Friday, Jan-uary 24) at his kickoff rally at the Plumbers' Hall, located at 1519 Rollins Road in Burlingame, from

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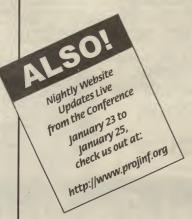


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- ⇒ Protease inhibitor resistance and failure rates
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- → Developing strategies for using the next generation of therapies
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Gays, lesbians turn out for Washington inaugural weekend

by Bob Roehr

a gotta have balls, and galas, and receptions at inaugura-tion time in Washington, DC. The gay and lesbian commu-nity joined that tradition four years ago when Bill Clinton was first elected, and built on it with even more events this January. While the fun was undiminished, the level of political excitement was decidedly lower key than last

was decidedly lower key than last time around.

San Francisco physician Don-ald Abrams seemed almost re-signed to be attending, "I never know when I'll be invited to an-other one," he sighed. He came in part to attend the retroviral con-ference that began Wednesday, Ianuary 21.

January 21.

What would a celebration be without that arch homophobe Fred Phelps and his multi-generation family of bigots from Kansas? "God Hates Fags" read ne well-traveled poster on Friday night as the clan picketed Jenkins Hill, a Capitol Hill bar owned by Paul Thomasson, the former Navy pilot who challenged the ban on



Gala goer: Donald Abrams.

gays in the military. "Don't go in there, it's run by fags," they shout-ed in the frigid night. The en-tourage would "grace" other ac-tivities throughout the weekend. [For more on Phelps, see story, next page 1]

page.]
On Saturday, the gay community could choose between – or indulge – two events. The Women's Inaugural Gala was co-

chaired by Clinton appointee Roberta Achtenberg and award-winning documentary producer Debra Chasnoff for the benefit of local and national women's pro-grams; the Gay and Lesbian Vic-tory Fund, celebrating 127 openly gay elected officials, took over the club Zei to dance until dawn. But the crown jewel was the Triangle Ball, the Monday night black tie celebration (starting at

State of the Honoray Inginity black tie celebration (starting at \$150 per person) organized by the Human Rights Campaign, Victory Fund, and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. It was not one

Lesbian Task Force. It was not one of the official inaugural events, but that neither stopped it from being packed nor diminished the level of partying.

About the only mention of AIDS came inauguration morning, when ACT UP organized a small presence outside the presidential prayer service. "Wer here to send a message to the President that AIDS needs to be a priority in his second term," said ACT UP member Wayne Turner. "It certainly wasn't in his first term."

A somber note played out at Dupont Circle. On Sunday evening, the Reverend Mel White, the MCC Justice Minister, and 75 people representing a dozen orga-

the MCC Justice Minister, and 75 people representing a dozen organizations met to begin a 24-hour fast and prayer vigil for justice. It ended Monday evening with another candlelight gathering. The theme that launched the four-year program is "Light your justice candle that the President might see the light." It calls upon Clinton to show leadership on AIDS, non-discrimination, and marriage for lesbians and gays.

"Most of us probably heard Bill Clinton's second inaugural address," said Will Brennan, national executive director of Black and White Men Together. "And we all know there wasn't anything in

all know there wasn't anything in

"We have to get the message through to Bill, through to Con-gress, through to judges and state-houses, that we are here for our rights. We demand them. And we are not going to sit back for an-other four years and let husiness. other four years and let business go on as is." ▼

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Phelps and followers put in an appearance in San Francisco at Randy Shilts' funeral on Feb. 22, 1994.

Supreme Court refuses Phelps' 'fags' dispute

United Press International

he United States Supreme Court says it will not review a state judge's order that set up a protest-buffer zone to pro-tect a church in Topeka, Kansas from controversial anti-gay min-

In the dispute, the Westboro Baptist Church says the buffer zone prevents it from continuing its legal "God Hates Fags" campaign outside St. David's Episcopal Church.

pal Church.

Westboro claims its picketing is a "religious practice," which it has carried on in Topeka and other parts of the country since 1991 to combat homosexuality. Church members demonstrated Monday in Washington D.C. dur-

The church's lawyer insists the use of the word "fag" in the Topeka campaign is not a slur, but is

based on Amos 4:11 and conveys

the sense of "firebrand."
St. David's told the Supreme
Court that Westboro has no affiliation with any other organiza-tion, and is a family group rather

tion, and is a family group rather than a religious organization. The Topeka Episcopal Church says Westboro and Phelps, its leader, not only brand homosex-uals as "fags," but use the same terminology to attack anyone who disagrees with its members, par-ticularly Jews. St. David's says Westboro pick-eters have been involved in at least

eters have been involved in at least 20 physical altercations with the public in Topeka, and have tried to intimidate Episcopal women and children.

Eventually, a state judge issued a temporary restraining order that effectively kept Westboro pickets from shouting or demonstrating within 36 feet of St. David's property during any religious event, such as services, a wedding, or a

Phelps and some of his antigay picketers came to San Fran-cisco in 1994, after widely disseminating information that they in-tended to disrupt the funeral of gay journalist Randy Shilts. They withstood less than ten minutes of hostile response from those as-sembled at the funeral before they returned to police protection and then to Topeka. Some have also made intermittent appearances along the sides of various San Francisco Gay Pride Parades, where they have reported being hit with flying eggs.



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UCSF CAPS gets \$17.8 M for five-year HIV prevention program

by Cynthia Laird

he National Institute of Mental Health has awarded a five-year, \$17.8 million grant to the University of California, San Francisco to continue its Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) research on the prevention and consequences of HIV infection and

consequences of HIV infection and to address emerging advances and concerns in HIV research.

The grant, which marks the beginning of CAPS' 11th year, will enable the program to continue to respond to the changing landscape of the AIDS epidemic, said Dr. Thomas Coates, CAPS director and a professor of medicine and epidemiology at UCSE.

The grant renewal will support continued research on effective and

continued research on effective and

continued research on effective and innovative prevention interventions, along with research on future directions of HIV prevention.

"In the past few years the world of HIV prevention and treatment has changed dramatically," Coates said. "We now know which strategies are effective in

cally," Coates said. "We now know which strategies are effective in preventing HIV transmission and which populations are facing greatest risk."

Coates also said that "recent advances in AIDS treatment, including powerful drugs that can almost eliminate viral load in HIV. infected people could have a HIV-infected people, could have a huge impact on how prevention is conducted in this country."

Nine projects are being funded by the grant. They include:
• Health Care Policy Research.

*Health Care Policy Research. Current strategies for providing treatment for persons with HIV and AIDS include support through Medicaid, the Ryan White CARE Act, and the federal AIDS drug assistance programs. Coates said these programs were developed to provide emergency funding for individuals who might become sick or disabled, and were based on assumptions about how long people will live. and were based on assumptions about how long people will live. The center will conduct research on healthcare policy to determine how those medical care programs need to change to respond to the changing HIV/AIDS therapies.

• Collaborative HIV Prevention Research in Developing Countries. CAPS works with visiting scholars to develop, implement, and disseminate HIV prevention research vital to the epi-

vention research vital to the epi-demic in the home countries of

Over the past nine years, CAPS scientists have collaborated with Consists from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Eu-rope to design and implement AIDS prevention research pro-jects in their home countries. The grant will strengthen and refine the program by consolidating ex-isting successful structures and

beginning several new initiatives.

• Collaborative HIV Prevention Research in U.S. Minority

Communities. This program will bring mid-level researchers to CAPS to develop research projects that focus on the domestic epi-demics among people of preven-

tion research projects that are tar-geted to minority populations. The project also aims to en-hance the capacity of minority scihance the capacity of minority scientists to design, conduct, analyze, and publish HIV prevention research independently in their home communities, as well as to obtain funding for future research.

• Effects of School Entry Stress on HIV-Affected Children. A study of HIV-infected children entering kindergarten will example.

entering kindergarten will exam-ine differences in behavioral and biologic outcomes after entering school. Additionally, the study hopes to determine whether outcomes following school entry are also affected by characteristics of the family and child independent

of HIV serostatus.
• Coping Effectiveness Training in HIV-Infected Men. CAPS will initiate an innovative inter-vention for HIV-infected men based on recent advances in stress and coping theory. The study aims to evaluate the intervention's aims to evaluate the intervention's effect in decreasing psychological distress and increasing well-being among HIV-infected men. The study will also compare the effects of interventions among 300 HIV-positive men randomly assigned to one of three coping groups.

- Technology and Information

Exchange Core (TIE). TIE assures that CAPS moves beyond conventional scientific channels of communication to forge links between research and service and to dissem-

inate prevention science in order to inform policy and practice. TIE includes five activities: training in program planning and evaluation, technical assistance, and support for ten communityand support for ten community-based agencies; two-way consulta-tions and technical assistance among HIV service providers and CAPS investigators; disseminating research findings through HIV research findings through HIV prevention fact sheets and the CAPS home page on the World Wide Web; providing policymakers with research summaries and analyses; and educating the media, preparing guest commentary pieces, and training CAPS researchers to effectively interact with media. with media.

• Antivirals and Prevention. CAPS is planning to work with other UCSF AIDS investigators to other UCSF AIDS investigators to develop a number of studies to address how antiviral drugs, such as protease inhibitors, will affect prevention efforts. Issues such as confidence in drug efficacy, drug access and compliance, and risk behaviors of those receiving drug therapy will be studied.

therapy will be studied.

CAPS will also conduct compliance studies to develop stratepliance studies to develop strate-gies to increase adherence in a var-riety of populations, so that pro-tease inhibitors can be used by more HIV-infected individuals.

• Early Identification and Treatment of Risky and HIV-In-fected Individuals. CAPS will con-tinue to assess the benefits and

costs of home access and home HIV testing, as well as alternative strategies for offering counseling and testing in clinics and other settings. CAPS will also continue assessing the potential impact of partner notification and other traditional control strategies for sexually transmitted diseases.

sexually transmitted diseases.
Along with the AIDS program
at UCSF-affiliated San Francisco
General Hospital, CAPS will also
conduct studies to determine the
behavioral and biological impact of treating people early in their disease. Studies will require strate-gies for early identification and testing, as well as outcome data, to determine whether or not early treatment is effective.

• HIV Prevention Among the HIV-Infected. An intervention will be designed, implemented, and evaluated by CAPS staff that aims to reduce sexual and drug aims to reduce sexual and drug risk-taking behaviors among 1,200 HIV-infected men and women in order to decrease the risk of HIV transmission and to promote health-related behavior

The research will be focused on HIV-positive women, men who have sex with men, and injection drug users. The study will be conducted in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. ▼

For more information about CAPS, the grant, and HIV prevention programs, check their home page on the World Wide Web at: http://www.caps.

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Scott Wilbanks RESIDENT ILBANKS AND ASSOCIATES, INC. E. Bay therapist to discuss male sexual abuse survival

by Cynthia Laird

hildhood sexual abuse is a painful subject, yet being able to talk about the issue and the impact it has on one's adult life is often the key to a healing process. Merle Yost, an openly gay Oakland therapist, thinks it's particularly important to address sexual abuse of boys and the men they become. He'll be leading two facilitated conversations on the topic, including one on Saturday, January 25 in Berkeley, that inter-

January 25 in Berkeley, that inter-ested people can attend. Yost, who is a licensed Mar-riage, Family, and Child Coun-selor (MFCC), is an experienced group therapy leader. He's held similar facilitated conversations on the topic. on the topic

on the topic.

Surprisingly, he pointed out, women are the perpetrators in the sexual abuse of children more often than most people would believe. Sexual abuse against children that's committed by a female is also different from sexual abuse excitest hildren that man commit.

against children that men commit.
"I try and focus on how the impacts show up in relationships,"
Yost told the B.A.R.
He cited statistics that show

women make up to five percent of sexual abuse cases against girls, but up to 20 percent of sexual abuse against boys. Most people are surprised to learn that, Yost said.

Society too, is part of the prob-lem, especially around the issue of

sexual abuse of boys. Yost said a common assumption is made: girls who are raped hate it, while boys who were "seduced" love it. boys who were "seduced love it. That's simply not the case, according to Yost. Emotionally, he explained, boys are unable to handle that level of stimulation and often develop a compulsive be-havior as a result.

At the upcoming sessions, Yost

At the upcoming sessions, Yost plans to let participants talk to him as much as possible. "They get a lot out of it. Talking about it is healing in itself."

Speaking about men who were abused as boys and who are in relationships with abusive male partners, Yost said, "A lot of them don't know that's what's going on that it's chara." don't know that's what's going on - that it's abuse."

People who attend the sessions will have an opportunity to learn of available community resources. Yost will also provide a suggested reading list. ▼

Saturday's session will be from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Pacific Center for Human Growth, 2712 Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. There is a \$5 charge. For reservations, call (510)

Yost will present another session on Thursday, February 6 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Mandana House, 3989 Howe Street in Oakland. There is no charge. For reservations, call (510) 839-8844.

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HIV prevention contract process debated

by Cynthia Laird

n Tuesday, January 21, the San Francisco Health Com-mission voted 5-1 with one mission voted 5-1 with one abstention to approve a citywide HIV prevention funding proposal submitted by AIDS Office Director Dr. Mitch Katz. The commission approved a total of \$2,597,369 in federal prevention funds to be distributed to nine community-based agencies. HIV-positive commissioner Thomas Lee Eades was the lone vote against the funding plan.

Eades is not the plan's only critic, however, Concerns over the AIDS Office's implementation of the plan, specifically the latest Request For Proposal (RFP) process that left some local agencies with drastic funding cuts, led to a special meeting of the HIV Prevention Planning Council where Katz faced tough questions Wednesday,

faced tough questions Wednesday, January 15.

The prevention planning council, with about 30 members, develops the mammoth HIV Prevention Plan for the city. Because San Francisco receives CDC funds, the council is mandated by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), explained the AIDS Office's Health and Prevention Services Branch Chief Gene Copello. Unlike the Mayor's HIV



Dr. Mitch Katz.

Health Services Planning Council, which has the authority to priori-tize service categories and funding amounts for the federal Ryan White CARE Act funds the city receives, the prevention planning council is "advisory" in nature. Because it does not have the authority to prioritize prevention categories or funding allocations, Katz makes the decisions concerning prevention contracts, and his recommendations are for-warded to the Health Commission for final approval.

Dismantle and reassemble

In December, when the pre-

vention planning council learned of the funding awards Katz in-tended to propose under RFP #16 (for "Activity Based HIV Preven-tion Programs"), several coun-cilmembers were unhappy about the recommendations. Last week, about 18 members sat down with him to discuss the matter. Some him to discuss the matter. Some people were annoyed that the AIDS Office increased money to agencies they considered inexperienced in performing street out-reach services in the city, while other agencies that had experience were cut dramatically.

For instance, funding for city-

wide outreach services provided by a consortium of agencies and headed by the Institute for Community Health Outreach (ICHO) was cut 80 percent, said Ed Florentino, who requested \$1.5 million a year for ICHO's street-based outreach services through RFP #16.

RFP #16.
"Basically, they're dismantling a collaborative in order to reassemble it under the city," Florentino told the B.A.R. "There were very well-coordinated services. The citywide outreach program was probably the best in the country."

Florentino said that as of Friday, January 17, he had been told that at least part of the multiagency program will be funded through June under an agreement

Prevention plan

◆ page 1

at risk. Being a gay man is not a risk, it's what you do," said Copel-lo. "We're trying to make preven-tion more individualized, to reach persons around their lives and cultures."

Copello said the plan ensures that groups are adequately covered, such as street outreach. But he emphasized that the AIDS Office is just now beginning to im-plement previous prevention plans targeting behavioral risk

groups.
The prevention plan was written for four principal audiences:
• Members of the HIV Preven-

San Francisco, who are perhaps the most important readers of the plan, and are asked to use it for guidance to make changes that will enable their programs to better serve people at risk for

Two new sections were developed since the 1995 plan. They

are Strategies and Interventions, and Priority-Setting Criteria. The section on strategies and

interventions provides extensive information about the most commonly used interventions, such as venue-based outreach (street outreach), needle ex-change programs, counseling and testing, single session group workshops, and others. Informa-tion is provided describing stan-dards for service provision, ex-pected outcomes, and suggested uses. There is also a summary of what is known about the effec-tiveness of various interven-

Priority-Setting Criteria is a chapter that prioritizes behavchapter that prioritizes benav-ioral risk populations through the use of a matrix. The priority-setting matrix contains elements for the estimated frequency of risk behaviors for each popula-tion, the relative risk of those be-haviors estimated expressulance haviors, estimated seroprevalence of the population, and popula-

tion size.

The prevention plan also encourages involvement from the community in the planning process, either by applying to be on the council, providing public comment at council meetings, or joining a council committee as a community member.

Those wanting to review the plan can go to the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor. The plan is expected to be available at the New Main Library on February 3 and will be in the government section on the 5th floor. For more information, call the AIDS Office at 554-9000.

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New treatment guide offers vital info to PWAs

by Cynthia Laird

ith nine antiretrovirals, drugs that work to stop or slow HIV disease progression currently approved in the United States, people living with HIV disease have hundreds of possible treatment combinations. In treatment combinations. In response to the growing attention given these antiretrovirals and the difficulty in understanding their use, the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) has released an easy-to-use guide to current and emerging HIV/AIDS treatment options.

Do You Know Your Op

tions? is designed to help people living with HIV/AIDS un-derstand antiretroviral therapies.

The free, full-color guide in-cludes background information about the science of HIV replica-tion to help those living with HIV/AIDS better understand disease progression and the role drugs play in combating the virus. The brochure also provides a detailed description of available and developing antiretroviral therapies; explains the three current classes of treatment, drug-to-drug interac-tions, and possible side effects; and gives an overview of the latest In-ternational AIDS Society-USA care and treatment recommendations.

There is also a description of



viral load testing (the new test that measures the amount of HIV in the blood) and how the test relates to possible therapies. The guide provides plain English def-initions for the medical and sci-entific terms used in the brochure. "It's great to have HIV drug ad-

vances and new treatment options. Now we must empower pa-

ing of how to best utilize these new therapies for their individual needs. This guide individual needs. This guide helps to provide that knowledge," said A. Cornelius Baker, executive director of NAPWA. "The guide is intended to complement, not replace, the advice of a trained physician."

NAPWA is dedicated to improving the lives of the hundreds of thousands of people in the United States

people in the United States living with HIV/AIDS at home, in the community, and in the workplace. Found-ed in 1983 by a coalition of people with AIDS, NAPWA has served as a national re-source and voice for the needs and concerns of all people affected by HIV. ▼

For a copy of Do You Know Your Options?, write NAPWA, 1413 K Street NW, 7th Floor, Washington D.C. 20005, call (202) 898-0414, or visit NAPWA's website at http://www.thecure.org.

Medical marijuana to be grown en Mass.?

United Press International

assachusetts is considering growing its own marijuana for medical pur-poses if the federal government declines to provide a supply from its own growing fields. Governor William Weld said

Wednesday, January 29 he sup-ports proposed new state Health Department rules allowing cer-tain seriously ill patients to use marijuana to ease their suffering.

He also says he has no problem with the possibility the state may

with the possibility the state may grow its own marijuana for medical purposes, if the federal government refuses to supply the drug from its fields in Mississippi. Weld says he wants the marijuana to come from "an official source" so people aren't forced to buy "street marijuana" that may be laced with other illegal sub-

The Clinton administration has threatened to prosecute dochas intestened to prosecute doc-tors who prescribe marijuana for the treatment of any illness, de-spite approval by voters in Cali-fornia and Arizona.

The state Public Health Coun-

cil is expected to act on the pro-posals next week.

posals next week.

Under the proposed new rules, a state panel of three doctors would have to certify any patients who wants to use the drug to alleviate their suffering from such illegers as glavacoms, severe as thms. nesses as glaucoma, severe asthma or the nausea caused by radiation and chemotherapy treatments for

Weld says he would like to see that expanded to cover those suf-fering from AIDS, multiple scle-rosis, lupus and arthritis.

The certification would give patients who use marijuana a defense against prosecution. ▼

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The AIDS wars: science in the streets

by Enrique Asis

Impure Science: AIDS, Activism and the Politics of Knowledge by Steven Epstein University of California Press. 360 pp. \$29.95.

months about the apparent successes of the new "triple combination" therapies for HIV disease have spawned a host of commentaries. Some analysts, like Andrew Sullivan writing in the New York Times, have been quick to proclaim the "end" of the AIDS epidemic. Others have responded more cautiously, stressing the substantial limits in our understanding of these drugs and warning of dangers of the hype. How are we to make sense of these contradictory assertions? And why is

are we to make sense of these contradictory assertions? And why is it that the history of AIDS research seems to be marked by recurring cycles of dark despair followed by exuberant optimism?

Steven Epstein, a sociologist at the University of California, San Diego, is not an AIDS researcher and makes no claims to provide biomedical facts or answers; but Impure Science, his fascinating and highly-detailed account of the ups and downs of the first decade and a half of AIDS research, brings into sharp focus the search, brings into sharp focus the political environment in which our knowledge about the epidem-

our knowledge about the epidemic is produced.

Epstein's book is based on a prize-winning doctoral dissertation, which he wrote while he was a student at Berkeley and living in San Francisco. As a result, the book seems very much to be shaped by his familiarity with the local research and activist scene. Along the way, the author devotes sociological scrutiny to such events as the birth of Project In-form, the founding of ACT UP/San Francisco and its subsequent split, and the early organization of clinical trials in the Bay Area; and he analyzes the roles of local researchers from Jay Levy MD to Peter Duesberg Ph.D., as well as activists such as John James and Martin Delaney. The focus of the book is much broader than San Francisco, however, as Epstein analyzes AIDS research,

activism, and drug development on a national level. The theme that preoccupies Epstein is credibility in science: Who can speak credibly about AIDS? Who becomes an "AIDS expert," and how? Epstein's argument is that the twists and turns in AIDS research must be understood in terms of "credibility struggles." He charts how various players, including researchers, doctors, activists, educators, people with AIDS and HIV, pharmaceutical companies and governe ceutical companies, and govern-ment health officials, have fought to establish their credibility – their

right to speak as experts.

What is so distinctive about AIDS, of course, in comparison to AIDs, of course, in comparison to other fields of science, is the vocal participation of activists and the patient community. This emerges as Epstein's main concern: "What possibilities are there for laypeople to involve themselves meaningfully in the processes of 'doing science,' and what are the consequences of such incursions?" Can himmedical research on the docquences of such incursions? Can biomedical research, or the doc-tor-patient relationship, or science in general, be "democratized?" If so, what would that look like?

Early theories

The book opens with an academic, though interesting intro-duction to the sociological study of science and social movements, and while some will find it enlightening, other readers may want to skip through this chapter quickly. The rest of the book is presented in the form of a read-able narrative history. Although Epstein necessarily introduces many technical terms from biomedicine in these chapters, the account is refreshingly free of sociological jargon.

The book is divided in two

The book is divided in two parts. Part I focuses on the con-troversies surrounding the nature and causes of AIDS. Here Epstein tracks the scientific research from the earliest reports in 1981, asking how researchers evaluated various alternative theories about the cause of the mysterious new syncause of the mysterious new syndrome, such as the early, popular belief that gay men's "excessive" and "promiscuous" sexuality had brought about "immune overload." The author then devotes considerable (some might say too much) attention to the furor surrounding Berkeley scientist Peter Duesberg, who since 1987 has maintained that HIV cannot be the cause of AIDS. Epstein argues that the longevity of the controversy is due, in no small part, to Duesberg's ability to market his views outside the domain of science proper – to the mass media and to pockets of supporters in and to pockets of supporters in the gay community. Although Epstein is scrupulously evenhanded in analyzing this important con-



UCSD's Steven Epstein.

troversy, his reading suggests that Duesberg's objections to the offi-cial story of AIDS causation have, by now, been more adequately ad-dressed by mainstream re-searchers as well as activists.

searchers as well as activists.
Part 2 of the book is in many
ways the core. Here Epstein tracks
antiviral drug development and
all the debates over the "safety and
efficacy" of drugs from AZT
through the protease inhibitors.
He describes how activists used a

from street demonstrations self-education about the details of self-education about the details of virology and immunology, to force their way to the "inside" and to take a "seat at the table" of bio-medicine – in particular, repre-sentation on National Institute of Health committees that oversee AIDS drug research.

Once activists gained access to decision-makers at agencies such as the NIH and the FDA, they were able to press for quicker approval of drugs and for improvements in the conduct of clinical trials that would make drug trials both fair-er and more scientifically trust-worthy. The point here seems to be that the intervention of activists did not "contaminate" some supposedly pure scientific process.

Democratic science

"Research is muddy," as former San Francisco activist Michelle Roland observes, and AIDS might be a case in which political pres-sure, rather than muddying the waters further, helped to bring about better science. Epstein sum-marizes: "By pressing researchers to develop clinically relevant trials with designs that research subjects

would find acceptable, activists have helped to ensure more rapid accrual of the required numbers of subjects and to reduce the likelihood of noncompliance on the

hood of noncompliance on the part of those participating."

In the end, Epstein appears a bit ambivalent about "democratic science." Once the activists have become insiders, are they still responsive to the grassroots? Who, precisely, do AIDS treatment activists represent? What are the consequences of racial and gender differences within the patient consequences of racial and gender differences within the patient community and activist groups? Have AIDS activists challenged the hierarchical relationship between experts and laypeople, or is AIDS simply a case in which a group of laypeople have, in effect, become experts? Furthermore, what's to ensure that the policies become experts? Furthermore, what's to ensure that the policies that activists pressure scientists to adopt are really scientifically sound? This book is required reading for all those who care about the appropriate role of laypeople and social movements in relation to medicine and science as well as those who want to ence, as well as those who want to understand the broader political context in which debates about AIDS have been waged. ▼

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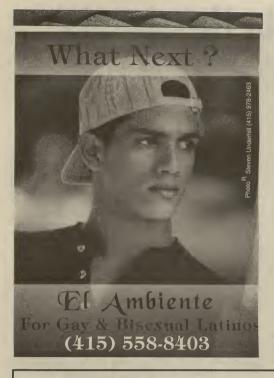
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Health Dept. opens bid for Tenderloin AIDS care

by Dennis Conkin

he San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office announced Thursday, January 16 that it is accepting proposals for a \$352,000 contract to supply Tenderloin HIV care services.

The contract for services was held last year by Shanti Project, which used it to provide services at its 230 Jones Street site in the Tenderloin, but concerns of some members of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council led the Health Department to put the contract out for bid this year. "It would be nice to see a pro-

Through the nice to see a pro-posal focused on the needs of the people in the Tenderloin, and not focused on the needs of the agen-cies," said council co-chair Laura Thomas. "Some members weren't happy with the services provided through the RFP [Request For Proposal]. They felt they weren't addressing the needs of the Ten-derloin as well as could be."

The contract was initially held

The contract was initially field by AIDS Indigent Direct Services, and was taken over by Shanti Project two years ago after a series of management crises led the AIDS office to place A.I.D.S. in a kind of receivership before its eventual discultrics.

"Shanti got the contract the second time around, and now there is an RFP again," Thomas

said.
Shanti spokesman Wayne
Salazar told the Bay Area Reporter
that Shanti would rebid on the
contract – which had only been
issued for one year during the last
bidding cycle – and that the
agency was exceeding all of its contract requirements at the Jones Street site.

The 11-month contract runs

from April 1997 through Febru-ary 1998, and specifically targets

who are homeless or living in sin-gle residence occupancy hotels, are recently released from jail, are transgendered, or are homebound and disabled.

The contract is to provide case management services that link clients with existing medical, social, and support services, as well as to provide nursing services and practical support such as helping clients with laundry. Also provid-ed for distribution in the contract are a limited number of vouchers are a limited number of vouchers good for taxi fares, clothing, and household goods for indigent HIV-positive or PWA clients. The contract calls for service collaboration and mobile case

management services, rather than merely office-based case-management services.

Five dollar breakfasts

The application guidelines cap service fees at \$70 per hour per unit of case management, and \$50 for practical support services. Mini-breakfasts/snacks for clients are not to exceed \$5.08 per meal.

Staff salaries and other costs of providing services are factored into those cost determinations, into those cost determinations, according to the DPH AIDS Office Health Services and Prevention Chief Dr. Gene Copello, who pointed out that, by law, the administrative costs in such con-tracts are limited to nine percent. Former Ambassador Hotel

Former Ambassador Hotel staffer, Lutheran Social Services case manager, and longtime AIDS activist Tom Calvanese, currently with the People With AIDS Coalition, told the Bay Area Reporter the proposal is not without its critics.

Calvanese expressed concern

over what he called "the class is-sues" related to the contract, and said the contract ignored issues of great importance for Tenderloin clients – such as benefits counsel-ing – in favor of client manage-ment models that may not be effective for such clients

"I'm not sure what he means about class issues," retorted AIDS Office staffer Marcy Fraser, RN.
"Is it that we don't live in the Tenderloin? He's not living in the Tenderloin. A number of people here have been homeless, in drug programs, in recovery, have HIV.
"That's out of line. We are try

ing to respond to the needs of the people in the Tenderloin as best we can."

we can."
Fraser also said that benefits counseling is a service covered under case management portions of the proposal, but Calvanese re-

of the proposal, but Calvanese remains unconvinced.

"Another issue is all this client-centered case management bullshit. How is it client-centered? It's administratively-centered. They are imposing their stamp on a community that has its own way of operating, once again," Calvanese said.

The RFP was developed as a community process with community process with community process.

The RFP was developed as a community process with community input through public hearings, including one held at Glide Memorial Methodist Church, Copello said.

"It's a community process except for the point at which the decision gets made," Calvanese said.

Bids for the contract must be received by the February 20 clos-

received by the February 20 clos-ing date. Copello said the AIDS Office hoped to have the services underway on April 1. ▼

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Fists clenched and voices raised: Gay youth let out with a shout of exultation at Sacramento's Youth Lobby Day.

Queer kids

◆ page 1

over the steps of the Capitol and staged a rally, complete with TV cameras, banners, and Carole Migden bragging about her appointment as chair of the Appropriations Committee. By far the most powerful speech was from David Lopez, a young man from San Francisco, who produced a roar of enthusiasm from the crowd after he performed a poem about homosphobia in schools

roar of enthusiasm from the crowd after he performed a poem about homophobia in schools.

Happy that I live in San Francisco, with a 25-mile radius of solidly Democratic districts, I marched off to meet with Kevin Shelley, former President of the Board of Supervisors and now Assemblymember from District 12. Stories _circulated _about one young man, the only one from Senate District 17, who was to meet with archeonservative William Knight, author of last year's California anti-marriage bill. Though I never had much doubt about Kevin Shelley's position on the issue – he did, after all, endorse the day's events – I went to ask him to lobby other members on our behalf.

doubt about Kevin Shelley's position on the issue – he did, after all, endorse the day's events – I went to ask him to lobby other members on our behalf.

After a feel-good session that gave me faith in San Francisco politicians, at least in contrast to ones from other parts of the state, it was time to meet with Quentin Kopp. This legislator gave pause to the small group assembled to meet him. After he introduced a bill last year that would have required that parents sign a permission sheet before their children receive AIDS education, we were unsure about his position on the issue. To our

surprise, Kopp was very friendly and seemed to understand that protection is needed very badly in California schools. Although he made no promises, he assured us that "with these kinds of issues, I'm usually on board."

Club kids?

Feeling as though I had gotten off easy, compared to others from Republican districts, I trekked to LIFE Lobby headquarters to a caucus for high school and middle school students. Students from all over the state were there, and we talked about how it was to be gay in our schools. The range of experiences was incredible; some students were completely out and had great support, and some were forbidden by the administration of their school to start a club. In my opinion, starting a gay-straight alliance is one of the best ways to combat homophobia, so I promoted a March conference that

will teach how to start and maintain such a club. The idea caught on immediately with the students there, most of whom were trying to start a group.

Yes, the rumors were true. Page Hodel spun an awesome mix, as always, at the party. As the music was interrupted periodically to announce various buses leaving to go home, youth left happy to have come and sad to be going.

come and sad to be going.

When it came my turn to leave I was completely impressed by the day. Although the contrast between San Francisco and the rest of California made me feel guilty about living in such a great place, I came away with wonderful experience and connections. The day was about much more than AB 101, which, with Democrats in power, has only the Governor's pen to stop it. The day was about promoting the next generation of young queer activists, and in that sense it was a flaming success.



The next generation: Young activists gather together at the Capitol to prove that they're here, they're queer, and they're involved.

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obtuaries must include a contact name and phone number. phone number

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Dave Christian Feb. 2, 1949 - Dec. 29, 1996



Feb. 2, 1949 – Dec. 29, 1996

Just before dawn on the last Sunday of the year, Dave passed away after a bout with pneumocystis pneumonia.

Born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas, Dave's outgoing nature led worked as a newscaster, program director, disc jockey, and announcer for television and radio.

At the age of 30, Dave moved to San Francisco. He became a successful woice-over talent, doing commercials for Macy's, Golden Gate Fields and Squaw Valley Ski Resort, among others. He also wrote and performed the Lonesome Cowboy Tim syndicated radio show in the 1980s.

Dave is survived by his partner of 11 years, Brett Swartz of San Francisco; his best friend, Carl Cochran, also of San Francisco; his mother, Betty Christian; sister, Cheryl Holden, brother, Randy; and an aunt, uncle and cousins in Texas. He was preceded in death by his father, Bob. Dave also leaves behind many friends around the country.

In accordance with Dave's wishes, there will be no memorial service. In lieu of flowers, donations to The Godfather Service Fund (415/565-4433) would be appreciated.

Russell (Jerry) Cole

Russell (Jerry) Cole January 9, 1997

Jerry passed away on January 9 from a heart attack at age 59. He was a companion of the late Hal Reile.

Jerry came to San Francisco from Canada and worked as a hairdresser. He later was employed by Pacific Bell until ill health forced his retirement.

Jerry is survived by his family in Canada and friends in the Bay Area. A memorial service was held at Pacific Interment on Sunday, January 19.

Kenneth John Costello



Ken passed away at home peacefully on Fri-day, December 20, succumbing to cerebral lymphoma after a valiant, 10-year struggle with AIDS.

Ken moved to the Bay Area in 1958. He attended Humboldt State University and UC Berkeley (earning a bachelor's in English in 1978), and studied at the Western Design Institute in San Francisco. He later worked for a number of San Francisco design firms. He also worked extensively as a freelance interior designer and consultant.

Many may remember Ken from his floral design work in the Castro. With over six years of continuous recovery, he was active in 12-step programs, providing a courageous example of personal experience, strength and hope. Ken is survived by his mother, Irene Costello; sister, Kay Lewis, nieces, Kenna and Krystal; nephew, Kewin; great-niece, Brittany; lifelong friend, Jenette; friends, Felix, James, Martin, Scott, Robert and Paul; and the members of his Monday Night Support Group. His beloved cocker spaniel, Molly, now resides with Felix.

Special thanks are due Dr. Jessie

Felix.

Special thanks are due Dr. Jessie
Dohmann, Nancy Miller and the staff of
Visiting Nurses Hospice of SF. Memorial contributions are suggested to AIDS
Benefit Counselors, AIDS Emergency
Fund, Family Link or the Shanti Project.

Randall "Randy"

Scott Freese Sept. 13, 1965 – Dec. 21, 1996

Randy is survived by his parents,
Dale and Joyce of San Jose; his brothers,
Brian and Kevin; his sister, Diedre; as
well as numerous extended family
members. He is also remembered and
missed by friends in San Francisco and
elsewhere. A memorial service was held
in the National AIDS Memorial Grove
in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, Januar
y 19, to celebrate Randy's life and remember his friendship.
Randy's family respectfully requests
that all memorial contributions be
made to St. Mary's Foundation/AIDS
Patient Fund, St. Mary's Medical Center/HIV Services, c/o Mark Pierce, 450
Stanyan St., San Francisco, CA 94117.

Ritch "Maggie" McFarland May 7, 1943 - Nov. 20, 1996

Ritch "Maggie" McFarland passed away Wednesday, November 20, at the Zen Hospice in San Francisco. He spent his last days as he lived his life, surrounded by his family and friends.
Ritch is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Karen and Dan John; his niece and nephews, Lindsey, Steve and Ben, all of Boise, Idaho; his brother and sister-in-law, Karl and Jody Koch; and nieces, Haley and Ashley, all of Yuma, Arizona.

Ritch also leaves behind a legion of Ritch also leaves behind a legion of friends who will miss him immensely. His family and friends want to thank the staff and volunteers of the Zen Hos-pice for the compassionate care they provided for Ritch. A celebration of Ritch's life will be held Saturday, February 1, at 2 p.m. at the SF-Eagle. Memorial gifts may be made to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Michael Arthur Pugh May 30, 1962 - Jan. 12, 1997



Michael was the

Michael was the eldest of four children. He is survived by his parents, Prudy and Bob Pugh; his sister, Leighanne; his brothers, Stephen and Scott; his nephews, Matthew and Kevin; and his parenter, Gordon Menzies, celebrated their fourth anniversary in March 1996. Michael was born in Los Angeles and came to San Francisco in 1986, He was proud of his service in the Navy aboard the U.S.S. Kitthyakw. He was a genuine, generous and outgoing person, which had be best of rold of wear shraw. aboard the U.S.S. KIYynawk. He was a genuine, generous and outgoing person, who had a heart of gold and was always eager to help others. This was evidenced by his volunteer work for people with AIDS. He was also very proud of his profession as a "domestic technician."

Michael was blessed with an angelic first energiciant goals are which he

Michael was blessed with an angelic first-tenor singing voice, which he demonstrated in various choirs. Most recently, he was with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus.

Michael was critically ill for less than three weeks and died of AIDS complications. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, at 2 p.m. at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152. Church Street. Contact Gordon Menzies at 661-4037 for further information.

Daniel R. Sims July 24, 1958 - Dec. 27, 1996



Surrounded by his family and friends, Dan departed on his last earthly journey at 1:35 p.m. It was a rainy and dreary day, completely fitting the mood of those of us who retain that his lover of more than 10 years was awaiting him and that they soared off on one of their happy, fun-filled adventures.

ventures.

Dan will be missed by those he loved. Those who didn't meet his criteria of humanity no longer need be apprehensive. There are fewer accomplishments greater than knowing who one is, and Dan had become comfortable with his own self-knowledge.

Dan was a skilled artist, had a tremendous knowledge of music, was witty and clever, and was a fiercely loyal friend. May his journey bring him joy.

A step closer to solving KS

United Press International

esearchers say they have taken an important step forward in finding the cause of Kaposi's Sarcoma (KS), the most common cancer among people with AIDS.

In the January 16 New England

Journal of Medicine, scientists from the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor and Medical Center in Ann Arbor and Loyola University in Maywood, Illinois report they isolated a form of the herpesvirus from KS tu-mors and successfully grew the virus in culture.

This shows that DNA that re-searchers found in Kaposi's can-cers comes from viruses able to

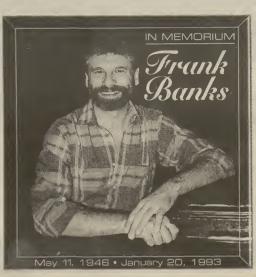
cers comes from viruses able to reproduce and cause disease, says University of Michigan molecular virologist Gary Nabel, an author of the study. Nabel says the experiment has given investigators live viruses to examine. Scientists are not certain, how-

ever, whether this kind of her-pesvirus is the cause of KS, a skin cancer that was extremely rare until the AIDS epidemic but now affects about 20 percent of AIDS

affects about 20 percent of Albo patients.

The next step will be to infect experimental mice with the lab-grown viruses, he says. If the mice get KS, it will be strong evidence that this herpesvirus is the cause of the diseas

Although the finding will not immediately help patients currently suffering from KS, Nabel says it may lead to improved diagnosis and treatment and help scientists better understand how-viruses cause other kinds of cancer.



Cash in the CHIPS, but no shelter

PWA housing situation worsens

by Rob Sabados, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

mong the many problems facing San Francisco today, few are more frustrating – or more visible – than its housing problem. As ACT UP/Golden Gate's continuing investigation of San Francisco's AIDS housing situation has begun to reveal, many of the problems that people with AIDS encounter when they seek housing are caused not by limited funding, but by politics. This, the first of several articles, will provide some background on San Francisco's AIDS housing pro-gram and reveal some of what we

permittee of programs such as Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) and the Ryan White CARE Act, many people with AIDS remain homeless or mar-ginally housed. At a recent meet-ing convened by the San Francis-co Department of Public Health's AIDS Office, researchers present-AIDS Office, researchers presented data showing that approximately ten percent of homeless persons and those living in some SROs are HIV-positive. SROs single room occupancy hotels provide residents with a small room with a communal bathroom, and are notorious for their room living conditions. poor living conditions.

What's the problem?

In many cases, the inability to

find decent housing is simply a matter of money. It can be difficult, for example, for a person who receives \$640 per month in SSI payments to find affordable housing in San Francisco's tight housing market. To assist people able and willing to live independent dently, housing subsidy programs were created in which the housing provider helps to pay a portion of the client's rent. Housing subsi-dies are chosen by over 80% of clients, making them, by far, the most nounlar option.

most popular option.

However, some people with
AIDS require more assistance
than merely a check or voucher
each month. To assist them, specific housing programs were created to help persons with substance abuse issues or who were in need of long-term supportive care. Because of the complexity of care required and commensurate government licensing require-

ments, the per-client cost of services is necessarily much greater. This led to the development of many small AIDS service organizations that focus on providing specialized, culturally competent control to the contro care to small numbers of people with AIDS. Unfortunately, there was little coordination between these programs. PWAs had to apply separately to each housing provider for housing and other services. Because it was possible to lobby these providers directly, those with effective advocates or self-advocacy skills were also served before those who did not. The Centralized Housing Intake and Placement Service, or CHIPS, program was developed to allow workers at AIDS service organizations to access all these programs simultaneously, to eliminate the need for multiple intakes, and to address concerns about equity. As initially conwas little coordination between

about equity. As initially con-ceived, the CHIPS program would have allowed all providers access to "a centralized data base of client profiles and information on all" housing resources, client in-

nearly 3,200 people. Even more discouraging is the statistic that only 33 percent of CHIPS participants have even had a compre-hensive intake interview to deter-mine their needs. Studies of these 4,003 persons show that 44 percent live in their own apartments while another 20 percent were while another 20 percent were homeless at the time that they enrolled in the program.

These statistics have led to

a very pessimistic attitude about the CHIPS program. Commented Ryan White Care Council member Tom Calvanese, "As far as I'm concerned, we've wasted a couple of million dollars on a complete failure. The CHIPS system was originally created

to provide a continu-um of housing for HIV-positive individuals. The intention was not merely to create a waiting list. It was also intended to address issues of equity in access to housing. At this point, the [AIDS Office's] definition of equity in primary function for the CHIPS system will be filling the *three or four* [emphasis theirs] residential program beds that become avail-able, on average, each week, as e, on average, each week, as as subsidies that become available through attrition.

Building infrastructure.

Since that time, the AIDS office has issued directives to the AIDS service

providers to decrease the amount of information being collected about clients, since it is not being used. Despite the decision to collect less information, the city has continued to spend hundreds of thou-sands of dollars to

enhance the collec-tion of this information. For ex-ample, the city has hired a comample, the city has hired a com-pany called Infomatrix, at an an-nual cost of \$216,905, to manage the waiting list. In addition, the city continues to spend money to buy computers and other equip-ment to provide ASOs with the ability to provide it with data that it does not want.

it does not want. it does not want.

In one especially questionable move, the city recently spent nearly \$4,000 to install special phone lines, called ISDN lines, to allow AIDS service providers to have better connections to the CHIPS sys ter connections to the CHIPS system. ISDN lines are a special, and expensive, type of phone line used for high-speed connections between computers. If, as stated above, the amount of data processed by the CHIPS system will be decreasing, does the city need to install high speed data lines? While \$4,000 may seem a drop in the bucket, it is also enough

to pay someone's rent for a year.

Much of this continued development seems to be based not on client needs but on political con-cerns. According to the minutes of a June 21, 1996, AIDS Office a June 21, 1996, AIDS office meeting, coordinator Sands stat-ed, "It is possible that the CHIPS system will be expanded to other sites, in case there are political problems, because the San Franproblems, because the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is the only organization doing comprehensive intakes now." Of course, setting up other sites to do comprehensive intakes will require staff, training, equipment, and other resources. In other words, the city is willing to expand the CHIPS infrastructure, at the cost of tens of thousands of dollars, to avoid potential political problems. Based on this and other meetings, it is apparent that AIDS Office staff is far more concerned with the political ramifications of its actions than with helping people with AIDS get housing.

It would appear that AIDS office politics have also played an important role in the decision to continue to enhance the system's infrastructure. After outlining a series of proposed changes, Sander 23 cisco AIDS Foundation is the only

series of proposed changes, Sands goes on to write in the October 23 memo that "I am also interested in the internal political fallout of this approach (i.e., what do Jan and Mitch have at stake other than ego?)." Although it is unclear, it is likely that he was referring to AIDS Office director Dr. Mitch Katz. Again, people with AIDS must ask themselves: could the money that is being spent to satisfy AIDS office politics be better spent providing people with HIV/AIDS a place to live? ▼

Many people with AIDS remain homeless or marginally housed, despite HOPWA and Ryan White.

formation, and statistical data regarding those being served.

In order to assure "equity," the CHIPS system considers only the order in which persons applied and not their need for housing or other assistance. Under this first-come, first-served approach, a homeless person who applies for housing would be left to wait their turn behind those with stable living situation. hind those with stable living situa-tions and/or sizable disability in-come. While this system may provide "equity," it can also lead to un-conscionable results such as this. As a result, many in the community have called for CHIPS to be modified to take into account factors such as income and need.

A long, long wait

According to information provided by the AIDS Office, there were 4,003 persons enrolled in the CHIPS program as of September 13, 1996. However, only 21 percent (836) of these have been placed, leaving a waiting list of housing is first-come, first-

Internal San Francisco AIDS Internal San Francisco AIDS
Office documents show that city
officials are equally pessimistic.
For example, AIDS Office Housing coordinator Louis Sands
wrote in a February 23, 1996,
memorandum that "Most persons
with HIV in San Francisco who
desire subsidized busing over desire subsidized housing over residential programs will be placed on the CHIPS waiting list and, most likely, never receive that housing anyway. Harsh but true." This document, obtained by ACT UP/Golden Gate under the California Public Records Act, goes on to state that "the likelihood of a new enrollee receiving a subsidy is slim to none." Unfortunately,

slim to none." Unfortunately, there is no evidence that things have improved since this was written nearly one year ago.

In fact, the placement rate of the CHIPS program has deteriorated to the point that, according to AIDS office documents, "[T]he

ACTion UPdate

Join our housing inspection

CT UP/Golden Gate is continuing its investigation of San Francisco's AIDS housing program, and will, in future articles, report on many other areas of the CHIPS program. It is essential, however, that others in the community speak out as well. Please attend and speak out at the next meeting of the Ryan White CARE Council at 5 p.m. on Monday, January 27 and its ad hoc housing committee the following Monday, February 3, at 4:30 p.m. Both meetings will be held in the third floor conference room of the AIDS Office at 25 Van Ness Avenue.

UCSF RESEARCHERS at San Francisco General Hospital are recruiting HIV POSITIVE PEOPLE for clinical trials:

ACTG 325

Get Paid for Testing *Interleukin-12*

An 8 week trial to test IL-12 safety and immunomodulatory activity.

Study Requirements:

- T cells below 50
- Stable on Antiretroviral Therapy for 8 weeks
- No MAC or CMV Diagnosi
- There are other restrictions, call for details

\$320 for completion of study

For more information call Carol Arri, RN at (415) 476-9296 x351

ACTG 329

A New Study for Women with HIV Wasting **Using Nandrolone**

Study Requirements:

- At least 5% weight loss
- There are other restrictions, call for information

\$220 for completion of study

For more information call Carol Arri, RN at (415) 476-9296 x351

ACTG 313

A New Study for HIV Wasting Using Testosterone and Megace

Study Requirements:

- At least 10% weight loss
- There are other restrictions, call for details.

\$220 for completion of study

For more information call Carol Arri, RN at (415) 476-9296 X351

Turbo-charged

by Jim Provenzano

any years ago, in a land called Culver City, a strange show emerged, with hunky male and female athletes of immense proportions battling against ordinary human beings. That strange show continues in the ephemeral world of syndication. cation.

It is called American Gladia tors. It is campy, "stoopid," and sexy. Even the muscle hunks who performed in tiny red, white, and blue micro-briefs and tube tops

blue micro-briefs and tube tops regularly admit it.

American Gladiators is good for children, I surmise. It teaches kids that competitive athletics is fun and, provided one has the right amount of padding, harmless. It also teaches kids that if you've got a great ass and perky muscles, showing them off in skintight clothes can be a career

option.

I happen to have a few episodes of this illustrious educational program on tape. In many episodes, viewers are treated to the physical dynamic action of men and women battling it out with gargantuan phallic ball-shooting guns, immense Q-tip-shaped battling sticks, and of course, the Yegas-esque spectacle course, the Vegas-esque spectacle of those rotating balls, replete with steam-shooting geysers. In one especially tasty episode, which I have documented, Nitro,

one of the exceptionally hunky male Gladiators (and a dead ringer for Colt porn actor Gordon



Turbo the Tasty.

Grant), grabs on to his opponent in the rings competition. Nitro clings to the waist of a guy named Bam Bam, and gravity takes Bam Bam, and gravity tak its toll. Nitro grabs hold of Bam Bam's shorts, and before falling to the mattress-like mats below.

mattress-like mats below, pulls them completely off.
Ripping off an opponent's clothing is worth a tenpoint demerit, and as the replay shows,
Nitro was demerited.
But the announcer, in his uniquestionally Sports Complex his unintentionally ironic tone, shouted,
"He's gonna get the full ten!"

while viewers were treated to a view of Nitro's spread ass (which appears to have the capacity for at least a full ten) clinging in slow motion to Bam Bam's thighs. "Nitro seems to want to turn this

show into Chippendales!" shouted the other macho announcer.
Unfortunately, an undergarment prevented viewers from fully enjoying Bam Bam's anatomy, but needless to say, the point was well taken. One would think that such a show in which such that such a show, in which such shenanigans make a national syn-dicated broadcast, would be open for a gay sensibility. One would think

One would think.
Remember Turbo?
Turbo was the Gay Gladiator.
He came out in one episode of the show, after explaining to one of those dorky announcers the purpose of his discreet earring: "It means I'm gay."

means I'm gay."

This, unfortunately, I don't This, unfortunately, I don't have on tape. This is reported from the astute Michael Musto, gossip columnist extraordinaire for the Village Voice and other East Coast publications.

Shortly after dispersions of the sexual publications of the sexual publications.

vulging his sexual orientation, Turbo left the show for career adwant to know is, where's Turbo, and why did he leave the show? Did homo-phobia rear its ugly

executive head? And what pencil-necked dweeb at ABC (which

dweeb at ABC (which broadcasts it) or Samuel Goldwyn (which produces it) had the lamebrain idea that a homo would be a bad thing for a faggy show like American Gladiators, where the women are strong and the men shave their chests?



Turbo crushes an opponent with his 28 - inchers and fragrant pits.

Perhaps Turbo tired of a life in tight shorts. I just know I'm happy to be the owner of a rare Gladiator Turbo™ action figure, one of very few action figures based on a real live homosexual athlete, unless you consider Turbo to be a character, in which case, like Mark Hamill/Luke Skywalker, any G.I. Joe, and The Tick, you have to determine if it's the character or the actor who's gay (and with The Tick, it doesn't matter. He's a cartoon and I say he's gay.

So there.)
The box for my Gladiator Turbo** includes a few brief facts on Turbo, including his height (61"), weight (250 lbs.) flexed bicep (19") and thigh (28"). Turbo can bench press 500 pounds, and hails from Falbrook, California. How convenient. Other sports he likes include football, softball, tennis, and racquetball.

I'm happy to know this information, but my only question is, what is the resale value on a gay, ex-Gladiator action figure? Not that I would sell my Gladiator Turbo™ action figure, since he

has settled down quite well with my Wolverine™ action figure. But what of the representation of gay athletes in entertainment shows like this, and as toys? Isn't it nice that kids have an option from the usual gay dolls, like Magic Earring Ken™, who's the sort of doll you'd just as soon avoid at any Malibu Barbie™ brunches? I mean, anyone with three colors of hair and a lavender mesh top is a bit too far in the International Male™ Overkill Department.

partment.
So let's get more diversity in taste and body type in our gay dolls. Readers are encouraged to write letters to the Samuel Goldwyn Company, which produces American Gladiators, and inquire about Turbo, and the sexual orientation of other Gladiators (inquiries of gender might not how. quiries of gender, might not, how-ever, be appropriate).

ever, be appropriate).
Feel free to call Mattel at (800)
421-2887, and thank them for
making toys "for ages 4 years and
over" that feature gay athletes. I
would call them myself, but all
Mattel's toys are made in China, so I'm boycotting them. ▼

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Clinton's porn ban rejected

United Press International

federal judge in New York issued a permanent injunc-tion Wednesday, January 22 against a ban on the sale of sexu-ally explicit material on U.S. mili-tary bases and Navy ships. U.S. District Judge Shira Sheindlin declared the Military

Honor and Decency Act unconstitutional, stating that a democratic society must "tolerate a vast range of discourse, much of it in bad taste and offensive

bad taste and offensive."

The ban, a rider bill on the 1996 general defense authorization bill, was signed into law by President Clinton in September.

It was challenged by Penthouse magazine publisher Bob Guccione. Prior to the ban, Guccione's Ceneral Media Compunications. General Media Communications sold approximately 19,000 copies of *Penthouse* in military commis-

saries.

The law defines sexually explicit material as an "audio recording, film or video recording, or a periodical with visual depictions, produced in any medium, the dominant theme of which depicts or describes multiv describes nudity, including sexual or excretory activities or organs, in

a lascivious way."

Backers of the ban had argued that the material should be kept off commissary shelves because the base discounts amounted to a government subsidy and because the children of military families

use the base stores.
Guccione's attorney, Michael Bamberger, says the court's decision is "a vindication of the First Amendment rights of military

personnel."
Scheindlin says in her opinion that society is best served by protecting the right to free speech – even speech considered offensive.

Contract debate

◄ page **19**

with the AIDS Office. ICHO will remain in business as the agency receives state funds to provide training for outreach workers and other activities, he added.

other activities, he added.
At the prevention planning council meeting, concerns were expressed about the ability of the agencies funded under RFP #16 to provide "culturally competent" services to targeted populations.
But perhaps most importantly, some on the council think the AIDS Office ignored the city's own HIV Prevention Plan in selecting agencies to be funded.
"As a new member. I read the

"As a new member, I read the entire plan," said Steven Sams. "The decisions of the council were not met by funding of the RFP. I don't think what got funded re-flected the plan."

Katz responded, "When the original plan came forth, the prevention plan was very different from the way the AIDS Office tra-ditionally allocated funds. The problem was the prevention plan was so bold, it didn't fit into any narrower way.

narrower way."

Ana Claire Meyer, one of the council's co-chairs, asked Katz to clarify the council's role.

"I don't see the council as making dollar decisions about contracts," Katz said, adding that funding allocations do need to fit the prevention plan.

"I do believe very much in this

"Ido believe very much in this council," Katz said at the start of the January 15 meeting. At the end of the meeting, he announced that Copello will be taking over as the Department of Public Health (DPH) co-chair on the council ef-fective Friday, January 24. Copel-lo said he will replace Valerie Kegebein, who is leaving the co-chair position to do other work involved with implementing the

Katz also criticized the RFP process at the meeting, calling it



Gene Copello: "The guiding principle is to eliminate conflict of interest. Many people with expertise work for agencies that are applying for grants."

"an imperfect way to get at a vi-

an imperfect way to get as a sion."

"I have my own disagreements with RFPs and with risk groups," Katz said, referring to the council's development in 1995 of 12 behavioral risk populations. The groups identify particular populations, such as men who have sex with men. and men who have sex with men. and men who have sex with men, and men who have sex with men, and men who have sex with men and inject drugs. All the categories also include the trans-gender community, both pre-op-erative and post-operative. Women's groups are also identi-

Copello echoed Katz's concerns about the RFP process, which involves agencies submit-ting project descriptions, budgets, and other relevant information

Submitted proposals then un-dergo a technical review by a group of people with expertise in the area. After that, selected appli-cants are notified and the propos-

als are sent to the Health Com-

als are sent to the Health Com-mission for final approval.
According to the technical re-view report for RFP #16, a com-mittee of 16 people reviewed the 25 proposals submitted. Four of the reviewers were from Santa Clara, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties. One person from Marin County was on the committee, and the rest were from San Fran-

cisco.
Copello, asked about the need Copello, asked about the need for people to come from other counties to review proposals, said, "The guiding principle is to eliminate conflict of interest. Many people with expertise work for agencies that are applying for grants. Also, availability: we may not be able to get people in San Francisco together."

Planning council members had several questions about the community review panel that provided the technical review report on RFP #16. Ronnie Ashley/Chata, a council co-chair, said there were "many inconsistencies" with the technical review report. Ashley/Chata served on the review committee. Another councilmember, Vic Hernandez, was also on the committee, affiliated with CHAMP and Asian Pacific AIDS Network (APAN).

Copello was also asked if the AIDS Office would send notices of review committee formations to community newspapers such as the Bay Area Reporter so that an nouncements could be included in the paper. He said he'd consider the question. He added the office has made announcements in the past but did not know if local newspapers received them.

Oh veah. .006 for rubbers

By the time Katz met with the council last week, a "compromise" amending his original recommendations had been reached. According to a January 13 memo to the Health Commission, in which Katz outlined the fund dissibilities of DED #16 for all to for a line for the control of the state of the tribution of RFP #16, funding for Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics, Inc./Street Outreach Services will

increase from \$100,000 to \$331,416. Services will be provided in Oceanside, Merced, Ingelside, Civic Center, Mission, Western Addition, and the South of Market areas of the city.

On the other end of the scale, funding for California Prevention Education Project (Cal-Pep) decreased to \$88,722, or 17 percent less than the \$106,466 it expected to receive for its venue-based individual outreach (VBIO) in the South of Market and Tenderloin South of Market and Tenderloin

Additional funding for VBIO services will be included in the city's general fund and the state-funded-contracts that are expected to go to the commission later

this year.

Health Commission members agreed to monitor the new con-tracts and admitted the plan was not an ideal situation, according DPH spokesperson Eileen

Funding for condom distribu-Funding for condom distribu-tion was also awarded to the Stop AIDS Project, which received \$15,000. That figure represents just three-fifths of one percent of the prevention funds awarded in

"That's only one part of the condom program," Copello said. "We have a program in the schools, condom campaigns such as during the Pride Parade, and condoms at all the health centers." He added a report is being prepared for the Board of Supervisors and should be completed in about two weeks. Supervisors Leslie Katz, Susan Leal, and Tom Ammiano have asked the DPH to develop a widespread condom distribution program.

develop a widespread condom distribution program. "That \$15,000 is very targeted to gay bars," Copello said, adding that street outreach programs also distribute condoms.

The HIV Prevention Planning Council meets Thursday. January 23 at 3 p.m. For meeting location, call the AIDS Office at 554-9000.



BAY AREA REPORTER EGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210111

STATEMENT FILE NO. 210111
The following person(s) are doing business as WINGARD, 119 Germania St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Kenneth Roy Wingard, 119 Germania St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictituous business name on the date of October 11, 1996.
This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Kenneth R. Wingard. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 20, 1996.
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210342

STATEMENT FILE NO. 210342
The following person(s) are doing business as RHYS, 2215R Market St. #115; San Francisco, CA 94114: Robert C. Drapeau, 140 Scott St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business aname on the date of November 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert C. Drapeau. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 3, 1996.

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210326

The following person(s) are doing business as HIROSHI TAKAMA PHOTOGRAPHY, 925 Sutter St., #305, San Francisco, CA 94109: Hiroshi Takama, 925 Sutter St., #305, San Francisco, CA 94109: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business iname on the date of NIA. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Hiroshi Takama. This

statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 2, 1997. Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210263

STATEMENT FILE NO. 210263
The following person(s) are doing business as JBH MANAGEMENT, 35 Walter Apt 2, San Francisco, CA 94114: James Bradford Hinckley, 35 Walter St., Apt 2, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above flictitious business name on the date of December 31, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Brad Hinckley, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 31, 1996.

Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210130 STATEMENT FILE NO. 210130
The following person(s) are doing usiness as LATITUDES STORE AND CAFE, 2361 California Street #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Rot Kirkpatrick, 2361 California Street, #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Holly Andrews, 2361 California Street, #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Holly Andrews, 2361 California Street #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Holly Andrews, 2361 California Street #11, San Francisco, CA 94115: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of NIA. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Ron Kirkpatrick. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 23, 1996.
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATE-MENT FILE NO. 201627

The following person has abandoned the

use of the ficticious business known as FLOWER POWER MARKET, 2264 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. The ficticious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on January 22, 1996.
Name and Address of registrant: RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM, 19 Forest Side Ave, San Francisco, CA 94127. This business was conducted by an individual. Signed: RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the San Francisco County on the date December 26, 1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
To Whom It May Concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicants(s) is/are:
CALMA MYRNA Q, DIAMONON, HORACE, JAR. The applicants listed above are
applying to the Department of Alcoholic
Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 4794 MISSION ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94112. For the following type
of License: 41 On-SALE BER AND
WINE-EATING. San Francisco District Office, 185 Berry St Ste 5600, San Francisco, CA 94107. (415) 557-3660.
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 983762
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of LUIS ALBERTO VASQUEZ PORRAS for change of

LEGAL NOTICES

name. The application of LUIS ALBERTO VASQUEZ PORRAS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that LUIS ALBERTO VASQUEZ PORRAS has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to LUIS ALBERTO PORRAS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 20th day of Febuary, 1997, at 9 o'-clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive

weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 3rd day of January, 1997. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 210641
The following person(s) are doing business as SAV-ON-FLOORS, 191 Duncan Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: Mario E. Garcia, 191 Duncan Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: Mario E. Garcia, 191 Duncen Street, San Francisco, CA 9410: Mario E. Garcia This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 14, 1997. Francisco, CA on December 14, 1997 Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 1997.

RFP#:001-97

The San Francisco Department of Public Health, AIDS Office and the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council are seeking proposals to provide AIDS Services in the Tenderloin area of San Francisco.

Services solicited: mobile case management, practical sup-port, mini-breakfast/snack, nursing care and vouchers. Up to a maximum of \$352,770 is available for an eleven(11) month period. Services must be provided to San Francisco residents with HIV who have low income and who are underinsured or uninsured.

Applicants must be either non-profit or public agency providers. Department of Public Health divisions may apply only if they are part of a collaborative effort with another non-profit provider.

For further information about eligibility criteria, minimum qualifications, and specific services, please pick-up a copy of the RFP package from the AIDS Office or call 554-9331

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Time: _____ 10:00 am

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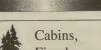
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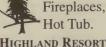
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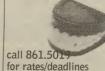
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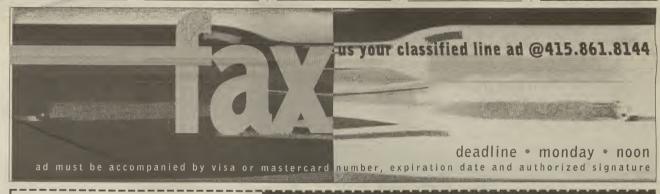
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Chad Jones reviews two one-acts, David Mamet's 'The Cryptogram' and Jose Rivera's 'Cloud Tectonics.

Daniel Harris reviews Neil Bartlett's latest, 'The House on Brooke Street.'



Kenneth Branagh's 'Hamlet' is a bit too full of sound and fury.

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BAY A REA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAINM

Vol. 27 • No. 4 • 23 January 1997



Censorship threatens gay cyberspace

by Wayne Hoffman

t may not be 1984 anymore, but Big Brother is alive and well. Just

t may not be 1984 anymore, but Big Brother is alive and well. Just as cyberspace seemed poised to become the bastion of free expression, censorship looms on the horizon, threatening to curtail editorial freedoms – especially in the burgeoning gay on-line universe.

Bill Pinyon was working for NASA at the Kennedy Space Center a few years ago, when he decided to launch his own gay bulletin board system (BBS) called Out in Florida. While the BBS originally was meant as a small-scale, free, gay Internet guide, everything changed when Pinyon started including a few erotic images he called "Badpuppy" pictures.

"Within two hours of announcing we had this stuff on the site, we were dead, overloaded," he says. "So many people had wanted it so badly."

Realizing he had touched on something big, Pinyon expanded his scope, upgraded his capabilities, and launched Badpuppy as a website. He hopes eventually to make Badpuppy a gay equivalent of full-service providers like America Online or Compuserve—but with a key difference. While it includes information on travel and entertainment, news updates, community forums and chat on travel and entertainment, news updates, community forums and chat rooms, Badpuppy is still driven pri-marily by its erotic content: live video

marily by its erotic content: live video cyber-sex, a massive archive of pornographic images, and even a new section for virtual cruising.

"I believe with anything you have to have a selling feature. Unfortunately or fortunately, the adult erotica on Badpuppy is its selling feature," Pinyon admits. "People like the customer

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Beyond myth

'Bolivian Diary' distinguishes fact from fiction in Che Guevara's peasant revolution

by Gary Morris

he Guevara was an idiosyncratic presence even by the standards of Latin American revolutionaries. Born in 1928 in Argentina, he joined the Cuban revolution in 1959 and launched his own guerrilla war in Bolivia in 1966. A doctor by training, he was sensitive to the plight of the poor, whose causes he championed. Unlike the more pragmatic Fidel Castro, Guevara renounced both the U.S. and the Soviets for their exploitation of the Third World. He wrote what mayer capside a sensible work of the control of the contro castro, Guevara erroducted both the Co.3, and the Soviets of the exploita-tion of the Third World. He wrote what many consider a seminal work on guerrilla warfare, but his own experience in Bolivia, which resulted in his death, is considered a virtual primer on how not to make a revolution. Guevara is remembered in the U.S. and Europe as a counterculture icon

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OBLIVION m a g a z i n c

by Chris Culwell and Pithy Galore

everal friends called after Sunday's Golden Globe Awards to make a predic-tion: now that **Madonna** has won a Best Actress Golden Globe Award for *Evita*, doesn't that make her a shoor in for a Best Actress ner a snoom for a Best Actress Oscar? Not necessarily. People said the same thing about **Sharon Stone** last year after she won a Best Actress GG for *Casino*, but Oscar eluded her two months later. Alas, we suspect the same thing will happen to Madonna.

Everything's comin' up roses for Marc

A little spy over at Focus magazine has revealed to us the winners of Focus 'Second Annual Stoli Arts Achievements Awards, and we're happy to report that gay filmmaker **Marc Huestis** made the list, along with San Francisco Symphony conductor **Michael Times** comedian **Clinton Lackson** writer(directors) Tilson Thomas, comedian Clinton Jackson, writer/director Ellen Gavin, Oakland Ballet's Ronn Guidi, Threepenny Review editor Wendy Lesser, conceptual artist Rigo 97, and others. (All 12 winners are profiled in the February issue of Focus, available on newsstands January 29.)

It's about time Huestis got some recognition, seeing as he's been a vital member of the community since he moved here in

been a vital member of the community since he moved here in the mid-70s, whose many unusual theater events and benefit performances, which include such spectacles as the "Strange Fruit" revue and the live soap opera Naked Brunch, constitute a unique piece of San Francisco history. Some of these unfortentiable tory. Some of these unforgettable tory, some of these unforgettable moments are lovingly recorded in Another Goddamn Benefit, Huestis' latest film, which premiered at last year's queer film fest and which has recently been accepted into the 1997 Berlin Film Festival. Congratula-

tions, Marc. Presentation of the Focus/Stoli Arts Awards will be made on February 10 (7 p.m.) at Cow-ell Theatre at Fort Mason. Presenters include several

of last year's recipients, including Will Durst and poet/author Thom Gunn, among others. For tickets (\$50-\$60), call City Box Office at 392-4400. (Celebrants must be 21 years or older to at-

Time for a new dress, girl

A performer friend of ours on the East Coast sent us a blistering review this week that outlined in vivid detail a truly awful perfor-mance by a certain overexposed dragster at a Provincetown night-club. We promised our worried chum that we wouldn't share this foul dish with readers, but we lied. foul dish with readers, but we neu-However, in a compromise of sorts, we will refrain from using the dragster's name, although by referring to her as overexposed we're doing the next best thing. Anyway, **Overexposed** was

Anyway, **OVETEX. POSED** was performing at some place called the Excalibur Club, a dive the reviewer carefully describes as "no glitter dome." The crowd was excited, reportedly, and in anticipation of the guest star's appearance onstage began chanting her famous mantra — "You better voter and over an mous mantra — "You better work!!" — over and over and over again. Alas, Overexposed wasn't in the mood for work. After half-heartedly churning out tired tracks like "If You Were a Woman and I Was a Man" and "Snapshot." Overexposed then launched into a thinly-veiled self-promotional mous mantra — work!!" — over and

gig in which she plugged her autobiography, recordings, and upcoming TV spots. Shortly thereafter, the columnist wrote, Overexposed proceeded to "collect \$20 bills during the 'You got some money fo' me?' routine" before she called it quits, a mere 20 minutes into her act. utes into her act.

utes into her act.

According to the review of this crash-and-burn exercise, folks were not amused, in particular two coiffed queens, both US Air flight attendants, who'd dolled themselves up for this big night on the town. "She was only on a half hour," one air hostess said to the other. "And she wore the same outfits she had on on Ricki Lake," said Queen #2. "I was not impressed." And neither are we.



Edmund White

Out There

Does AIDS lit matter?

"Will AIDS and AIDS litera-e soon be forgotten?" writer **Edmund White** asked at

mund White asked at the beginning of the "Literature in the Age of AIDS" seminar, held last week in Key West, Florida. White's question is pertinent in light of recent reports that new treatments for combating AIDS may mean the disease is no longer a death sentence and

that, perhaps, a new, less fatalistic phase of the epidemic is upon us.

The seminar, covered last week in the New York Times, was attended by more than 300 people gay writers, mothers who have lost children to AIDS, doctors who treat AIDS patients, and others — who came to hear what the
AIDS literati had to say about the
future of AIDS literature.

Questions about perpetuity
frequently gave way to discussions

trequently gave way to discussions of style, genre, and purpose. Michael Denneny, an editor at Crown Publishers, observed that AIDS writing tends to be defined by its "overwhelming autobiographical form," which, he said, almost makes it "politically incorrect to have the AIDS novel be about surviving." White and novelist Anne Beattle agreed that the novel is the most difficult the novel is the most difficult form in which to write about the form in which to write about the epidemic, as too many narratives are "assimilatory," heavily reliant upon a "prodigal son" character, who, sick with AIDS, inevitably "returns to the bosom of his family," where he finally gains acceptance. For this formula to work, said White, "It must have a beginning, middle and end, in which the middle is illness, and the end is death." White allowed that the short story is a more successful form because, being flexible in form, it avoids "conforming to this fatal trajectory."

No surprise that Angels in

No surprise that Angels in

America playwright **Tony Kushner** was the one to bring the discussion back to its central concern. "The fear of a work becoming dated is one of the most effecwriting," he said. "We shouldn't worry about dating. You shouldn't warry about dating. You shouldn't be afraid of criticism and making mistakes. That's what we're

Say what?

We love sexy basketball star **Dennis Rodman**, but in his recent "interview" with *The Advocate* (January 21), what are supposed to be explosive sexual reveletions of the sexu lations are communicated in such a dithering and inane style they serve only to make the man's admittedly fascinating sexuality all the more inscrutable. Now don't get us wrong, we respect Dennis. How often does a professional male sports star willingly admit he wants to fuck guys? Still, if Rodman is going to become the next homo poster boy, the queer revolution has a problem.

Rodman gives new meaning to the term bumbling. In the interview he says he wants to sleep lations are communicated in such

view he says he wants to sleep with guys but that "his body isn't quite there yet," whatever that means. Later, he says he can't sleep with guys because he thinks he might have been abused as a child might have been abused as a child—by a man. So is he repressing it? He's not sure. On another page, Rodman says he's had three women in his life, but elsewhere it's "two or three." In one sentence he admits to making out with transsexuals, but in another, plur-al suddenly becomes singular.

Throughout the interview, Rodman talks with considerable bravura about being free enough to do what he likes with his life



Dennis Rodman

and his sexuality, sounding for all the world like a 20th-century **Rousseau**. Yet he vividly contradicts himself at the end of this interminable interview by saying he is attracted to transsexuals because of the "security factor that this guy looks like a woman." Find the Clue Train, Dennis.

Borewell is back!

By the way, Dennis Rodman made the #1 slot on invidious Mr. Blackwell's "Worst-Dressed Women of 1996" list!! Hey, that's pretty clever for Blackwell, who, for the second year in a row, has been out all competitors for Out. beat out all competitors for Out There's "Most Nauseating Quid-nunc Award." Congratulations, Blackie. You deserve it.

The other winners on Black-rell's "Worst-Dressed" list include Goldie Hawn and Diane Keaton, British Royal The

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MUSIC

Team Dresch tours



by Adrian Roberts

hings always have a way of falling apart at the most inopportune time. Take hard-rocking Portland dyke band Team Dresch for example. Last spring, soon after the release of their second album, Captain My Captain, the band was set to go on tour. Alas, that never happened. Owing to unforeseen circumstances, band members began leaving the group, and Team leaders Donna Dresch (above, left) and Jody Bleyle (above, right) were left to fend off persistent rumors of the group's imminent break-up.

Thankfully that never happened. While Team Dresch had some down time, Donna and Jody kept busy with Chainsaw and Candy-Ass Records, their respective independent record labels. In fact, they even released a solo record in August by ex-Team Dresch guitarist Kaia Wilson, quelling any notion of ill-will between them and their former bandmates.

And though it took them a while to get it together, Donna and

former bandmates. And though it took them a while to get it together, Donna and Jody are finally taking Team Dresch out on the road. Rounding out the band for this small West Coast tour are Marci Martinez (who played on Team Dresch's first album, Personal Best) and Amanda Kelly, both members of fellow Portland dyke-rockers, the Vegas Beat. It'll be refreshing to finally hear songs from Captain My Captain performed live. With intense, rousing numbers such as "I'm Illegal," "Uncle Phranc," and "Remember Who You Are," expect these four women to rock your world. ▼

Team Dresch plays next Wednesday, January 29, with Tribe 8 and Stone Fox at Faster Pussycat, at the DNA Lounge, 375 11th Street at Harrison. Tickets are \$6. For info., call 561-9771.

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Guevara's corpse is examined by his executioners.

Bolivian diary

of the '60s whose craggy, bearded face looked down from posters on many a college student's wall. Bemany a college student's wall. Beyond this image, however, Guevara's presence has been largely forgotten in the culture. There was a pathetically overcooked 1969 Hollywood flick based on his life, Chel, with Omar Sharif in the title role and Jack Palance as Fidel, but little else. Guevara came back into public view recently when one of his killers revealed the whereabours of the slain. the whereabouts of the slain leader's previously unacknowledged burial place, a mass grave under a Bolivian airstrip. Swiss documentarian Richard

Swiss documentarian Richard Dindo is an ideal interpreter of the last days of this uncompromising, idealistic leader. Ernesto Che Guevara: The Bolivian Diary is Dindo's 15th film. Like its predecessors, The Bolivian Diary attempts to recreate history without succumbing to the obvious temptation to use archival footage, which Dindo views as tainted by the views of the institutions that control it. Instead, he mainly uses primary source material — in this case, interviews with eyewitnesses; photographs; Guevara's own words, as revealed in his surviving letters and diaries; and amateur footage shot by some of the soldiers involved in his capture.

Guevara's goal, as underscored in The Bolivian Diary, was to "create a central nerve center in Bo-

in The Bolivian Diary, was to "create a central nerve center in Bolivia" from which he could spark a peasant revolution. Ego and infighting, however, prevented Bolivian communists from aligning with him, and there is no evidence that Castro offered help or even publicized his former collegue's radical step. This sense of even publicized his former col-league's radical step. This sense of isolation and near-futility perme-ates his diary and the film, which uses large portions of this docu-ment as an overdub. The film de-tails his initial victories — violent skirmishes with the Bolivian army — and his increasing distress as some of his most trusted allies are

killed; his asthma grows worse; and, most troubling, members of his small army, as well as some of the peasants for whom he is prepared to die, become informers for the Bolivian Army.

Director Dindo retraces much

Director Dindo retraces much of Guevara's journey, the camera wandering through desolate val-leys and rocky cliffs while his words are read on the soundtrack. These scenes were videotaped rather than shot on film, the effect heaing such a realistic reflection of rather than shot on film, the effect being such a realistic reflection of the rough and wild South Ameri-can landscape that it becomes an embodiment of Guevara's own interior struggle. The revolution-ary's own words on the overdub are resigned, but they have a po-etic immediacy; in one sequence Guevara describes one of his comrades being swent away by a comrades being swept away by a river as "our baptism of death in an absurd manner on the shores of the Rio Grande."

The fillmmakers managed to

locate some of the peasants Guevara described — still living in squalor almost three decades after his death. Most significant is an articulate schoolteacher in the impoverished mountain town of Impoverished mountain town of Higuera, where Guevara was cap-tured. Surprisingly, his captors al-lowed him to talk to her at length before they executed him, and she describes for Dindo's unwavering camera the grim details of his last hours. The film closes with familiar images of the nearly naked body of the dead guerrilla leader being examined by the men who killed him.

killed him.

On the surface, The Bolivian Diarylooks like a detached but inevitably ghoulish pilgrimage through the life of an almost mythical figure. But the director's use of primary sources and his recreation of Guevara's journey will the viture into the sorry with pull the viewer into the story with-out resorting to sentimentality or sensationalism. Without overt moralizing, the film makes clear that Guevara's failure to create a peasant revolution doesn't make what he tried to do any less desirable, or any less relevant, today.

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Acid queen returns



out hits like "White Rabbit," "Goldfinger," and Steppenwolf's "Magic Ride" while waltzing about in a paisley-patterned pantsuit with bell-the size of San Francisco Bay, drag chanteuse Musty Chiffon is the in '60s swank nostalgia. Chiffon is a tully Provincetown's Dini Lamot, he founders of rock band Human Sexual Response, which, way back in churned out hits like; "Waman Be Jackie Onassis" and "What Does Sex Me." Judging from Musty's obsession with everything '60s, she still be Jackie, but, ultimately, she'ill have to settle for simply sublime. alore, Bay Area Reporter

Musty Chiffon and pianist Michael Holland appear through February 2 at JOSIE'S 3583 16th St. call 861-7933 for tickets and information

Richard Dindo's Ernesto Che Guevara: The Bolivian Diary plays January 24-30 at the Castro Theatre.

Hold the ham, please

Branagh elbows Shakespeare in 'Hamlet'

by Will Shank

erhaps if his former wife, actress/screenwriter Emma Thompson, were still with Kenneth Branagh, his Hamlet Kenneth Branagh, his Hamlet might show a bit more restraint. It could have been the delightful cinematic version of Shakespeare that his Much Ado About Nothing was several years ago, but here, Branagh is particularly over-the-top. Besides making his usual mistake of casting himself as the leading man, the film falls short of greatness because of its one-toomany clever distractions, thrown in by the director, apparently, to

greatness because of its one-too-many clever distractions, thrown in by the director, apparently, to break up the monotony of the screenwriter, William Shakespeare. The parade of famous actors playing cameo roles becomes downright irritating by the sec-ond reel. Although Charlton Hes-ton is acceptable as the Player King, and Billy Crystal proves a remarkably subdued Gravedigger, other actors stick out like sore thumbs, in particular, Gerard De-pardieu and Jack Lemmon. The low point comes near the end of the film, with a completely gratu-itous appearance by Robin Williams as Osric, a character who is usually reduced to a word-less extra whose sole purpose is to hand swords to the duelists in the final scene. Williams hams it up in

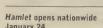
less extra whose sole purpose is to hand swords to the duelists in the final scene. Williams hams it up in this non-role as, yes, a mincing, mustachioed sissy who swoons at the very name of Laertes and the size of his weapon. This minuscule part is so distracting, so anachronistic, so misplaced, that it almost brings the film to a dead stop three and a half hours into its exhausting four hours.

Still, there is much in Branagh's Hamlet that is watchable. The sets by Tim Harvey are sumptuous, and, with the exception of the cameos, director Branagh manages the difficult task of keeping the attention level high with luminescent, energetic camerawork (there is a danger of vertigo from the frequent circles made around the actors by cinematographer Alex Tomson) and intelligent film editing. And there are many memorable scenes, among them the play-within-the-play wherein Hamlet "catches the conscience of the king," and the shimmering marriage of Claudius and Gertrude.

There are performances to savor among the cast, namely

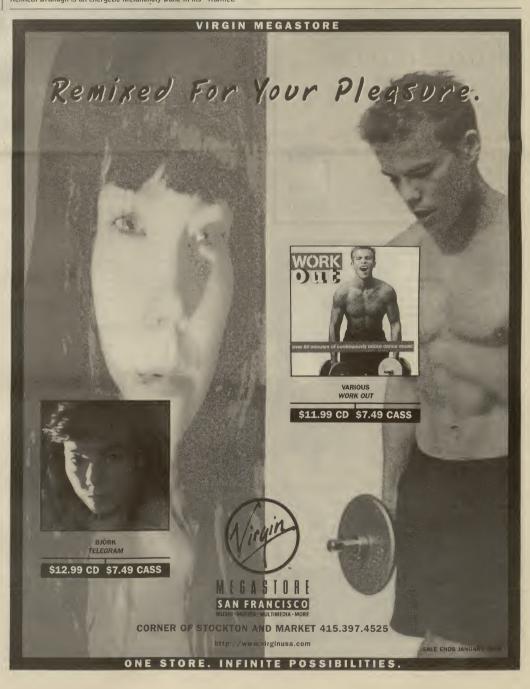
There are performances to savor among the cast, namely Kate Winslet's fragile Ophelia, Derek Jacoby's King Claudius, and Julie Christie as Gertrude.

and Julie Christie as Gertrude.
After a career of playing ravishing leading ladies, Christie has matured (without obvious help, it should be added) into a striking matron, and she is perfectly cast as Branagh's young mother.
Not so for Branagh, who spits and postures as Hamlet, delivering lines with such rapid-fire intensity that they are frequently incomprehensible. His performance is not in the same league with Olivier's Melancholy Dane, or even Mel Gibson's subtly modulated performance a few years ago in Zeffirelli's Hamlet. It is a pity that the best of the Olivier and Branagh versions (with a bit to John Gielgud and Richard Burton thrown gud and Richard Burton thrown in) could not be combined to produce the definitive *Hamlet*. ▼





Kenneth Branagh is an energetic Melancholy Dane in his "Hamlet."



Cosmic rays

'The Cryptogram' and 'Cloud Tectonics'

merica's waning attention span has hit the theater with a vengeance. One-act plays are all the rage now, as they neatly accommodate the need of some

p.m. Throughout January, two of the Bay Area's most intriguing theaters are offering up two of these one-act morsels: the Magic Theatre is trying the patience of its audiences with David Mamet's *The Cryptogram*, and the Berkeley Repertory Theatre is taking a trip into the metaphysical twilight zone with José Rivera's captivating Cloud Tectonics. Cloud Tectonics.
Anyone familiar with Mamet

knows well his spare staccato dia-logue. Questions are answered by more questions, and almost every ine repeats part of the line before it. Mamet often works in the woman-bashing netherworld of male ego and bluster, but in *The Cryptogram*, written in 1994,

Mamet edges into the more personal world of childhood in its most damaging moments. The di-alogue is still all Mamet — so alogue is still all Mainet — so clipped and punctuated it might as well be Braille — but the sub-ject matter is a tad more engaging than much in Mamet's canon. The time is 1959, and the scene

is the living room of a suburban home dominated by a giant white staircase. John, a ten-year-old boy, is excitedly anticipating a camping trip with his father, who has not yet returned from work. Donny, John's buttoned-down, thirty-ish mother, constantly adoff to his bedroom at the top of the stairs while Del, a family friend, hovers mysteriously and tries to distract both mother and son from the fact that Dad is not

If an actual cryptogram is a an actual cryptogram is a communication in code, then Mamet's play is aptly named. No one speaks in anything resembling a straightforward manner, so everything said takes on an

eerie, unsettling significance. The most startling aspect of the play is the relationship between mother and son. John clearly needs the affection of his mother, but she is completely unable to provide it. In one scene, John, in his palpable agitation, even climbs into his mother's lap, though she is barely able to touch him. Abandoned by her husband and betrayed by Del, ing around. Barbara Damashek

directs with an eye for detail.

There's no denying that
Mamet is an original voice in
American theater, but the elusive,
self-satisfied world of his plays often becomes as grating as it often is mystifying. The Magic's The Cryptogram almost over-comes the Mamet hurdle by offer-ing a searing glimpse into the lives

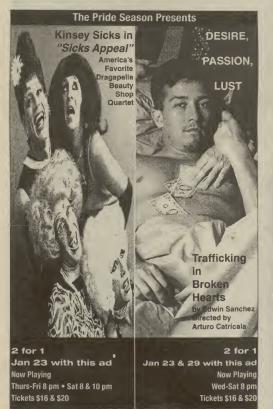
Echo Park house, she reveals that she is 54 years old and has been pregnant for two years. Anibal's little brother Nelson drops by on leave from the army and falls in love with Celestina. He vows to return in two years when his duty is up and be a father to her baby. The evening wears on and Nelson returns. Two years have gone by and he's out of the army, yet in-



Gary Perez, Judy Reves, and Demetrius Navarro.

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who, it turns out, is uneventfully

who, it turns out, is uneventfully gay, Donny turns on her son because he won't stay quietly upstairs in his room, as he promised. "Go away. You lied," Donny screams at the child. "I love you, but I can't like you. Do you know why? You lied."

The able cast of three performs wonders with Mamet's dialogue. They find the rhythm and musicality of it, and the wondrous child actor Eli Marienthal deftly mines the script's abundant humor. Susan Marie Brecht as the brittle and ultimately frightening brittle and ultimately frightening Donny is perfect, first as the repressed '50s housewife, then as the victim and unstable mother. Liam O'Brien as Del is more in-scrutable, but then it is never made clear why Del keeps hangof three tortured, easily recognizable souls.

Time tripping

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Berkeley Rep's Cloud Tectonics works in a dramatic world of greater warmth and accessibility. As penned by José Rivera and di-rected by Tony Taccone, the play wanders through spiritual and dramatic terrain similar in tone (though not in subject) to Tony Kushner's Angels In America, which Taccone has also directed.

Like the Mamet play, Cloud Tectonics is a three-character drama. Celestina del Sol, a mysterious hitchhiker, is picked up by Anibal de la Luna on a stormy night in disaster-plagued Los Angeles. Celestina is pregnant, and once ensconced in Anibal's cozy

side Anibal's house, not even an hour has elapsed. As Celestina says early on, "Time and I don't hang out together."
Rivera's play is aiming for a mystical lyricism that it only intermittently achieves. Lengthy musings on time and memory veer from the poetic to the overwrought, but in Taccone's hands, the proceedings possess both aussess. the proceedings possess both austere beauty and a sense of mys-

Rivera's fanciful tone coun tered by grim reality is brought beautifully to life by the actors. Gary Perez as Anibal magnificently conveys the wonder, enchant-ment and frustration of an Everyman suddenly brought into the incomprehensible realm of magic. The show's richest emotion emanates from Perez. Judy Reyes as Celestina creates a luminous, enigmatic being described as a "living miracle" and an "improvisation of nature" who operates on a level she can't understand but easily accepts. Demetrius Navarro as Nelson has less to do as a Bosnian war hero, but his sense of sincerity is beyond reproach.

Cloud Tectonics doesn't ulti-

mately make the soulful connection it longs for, but it does enchant, and its aim to "fill the endless now with life rescued from habit and death" is certainly admirable. ▼

The Cryptogram continues at the Magic Theatre through February 9. Call 441-8822 for information. Cloud Tectonics continues at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre through February 7. Call (510) 845-4700 for information.

Sibling rivalry

Joe Orton's 'Entertaining Mr. Sloane'

by Chad Jones

hen Joe Orton wrote Entertaining Mr. Sloane in 1964, he wanted to jolt audiences out of their post-war complacency with this gently subversive take on that British theatrical standard known as the drawing room comedy. The Britis favor their comedies with a healthy dose of sex, but Orton's brand of sex — homosex — wasn't exactly what they had in mind. Orton, who was just a frisky upstart, succeeded in scandalizing audiences with this intricate tale of a middle-aged brother and sister and the hot young stud who comes between them.

In the Phoenix Theatre's new production of Entertaining Mr. Sloane, director Maria Mazer successfully recreates the play's seedy sexiness, an Orton trademark, but who fails to hide the work's age spots. What some may have found shocking 33 years ago is almost quaint today, though Orton is still able to generate big laughs with his mischievous humor. Ultimately, Mazer, along with her game cast of four, has mounted a fairly successful museum piece of pre-Stonewall gay theater.

ly, Mazer, along with her game cast of four, has mounted a fairly successful museum piece of pre-Stonewall gay theater.

Unlike Orton farces Loot or What the Buller Saw, Entertaining Mr. Sloane finds the playwright working in a deceptively simple style, with the occasional nod to high comedy. Mr. Sloane (Joel Mullennix) is the comely new lodger in the home of Kath (Linda Ayres-Frederick) and her doddering dad (Kevin Sullivan). Sloane sets the dithering Kath's hormones all a-twitter, and in true Orton style, she can't seem to keep her erotic impulses separate from her maternal ones. By the time Kath has made Sloane her lover, she has him calling her mama, and when she's got Sloane's bun in her oven, she tells her lover/son he's going to have a brother. Kath isn't the only one lusting after the aloof young punk. Older brother Ed (John Robb), who commingles propriety and pederasty, has also set his sights on the young man. Soon brother and sister are locked in fierce competition to possess the youth, and the play ends in a

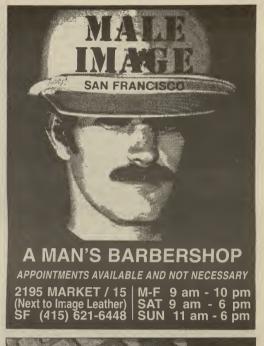
Set ins signts of the young main. Soon brother and sister are locked in fierce competition to possess the youth, and the play ends in a flurry of murder and high-stakes sexual ploys.

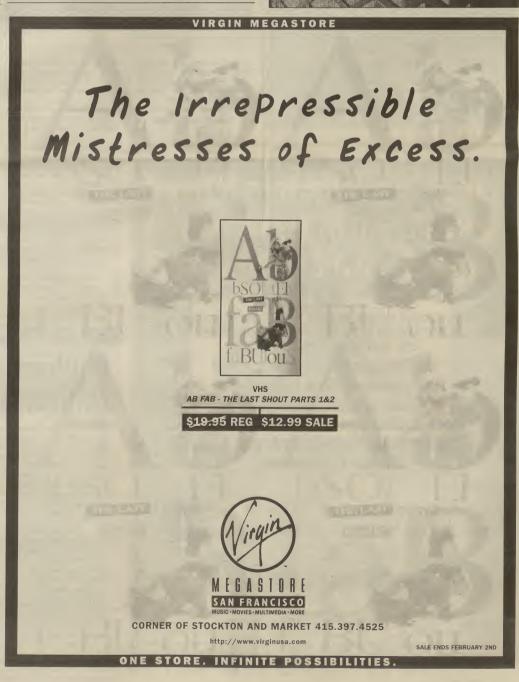
As the battling siblings, Ayres-Frederick and Robb demonstrate what savvy actors they are. Playing the broad humor with tight focus and convincing working-class British accents, these actors fuel the comedy of the play with panache. Mullennix's take on Sloane is more problematic, primarily because Sloane is such a difficult role. He is completely ambivalent about his sexuality, which he sees merely as a means to his own selfish ends. In essence, he's a mass of seething sexuality to his own selfish ends. In essence, he's a mass of seething sexuality just waiting to be taken advantage of, a hustler who thrives on the game. Unfortunately, Mullennix is too old for the part. To fully convey the barbaric comedy of the brother and sister feud, Sloane's desirable youth must be on full display. And though Mullennix is able to convey Sloane's sly charm, he's unable to deliver the character's seamy darker sides.

Entertaining Mr. Sloane continues at the Phoenix Theatre through February 23. Call 621-4423 for information.



Linda Ayres-Frederick, Joel Mullennix, and John Robb.





de la Martinez

✓ Arts cover

living in England, de la Martinez is a fast-talking firebrand and ad-vocate for women's music. She has conducted the Women's Philharmonic once previously, in 1993 when her program included the Serenade in D of Dame Ethyl Smyth, an English composer of the late 19th- and early 20th-centuries whose stalwart champion de la Martinez has become.

de la Martinez has become.

"England had its first Festival of Women in Music in 1990," de la Martinez explained in a recent phone interview from Tucson, Arizona, where she is visiting her parents. "Isn't that outrageous? It was held in the tiny town of Chard. I was asked to form the festival's resident orchestra." That orchestra, comprised of London's best freelance women musicians.

best freelance women musicians, eventually became the core of what is now the European Women's Orchestra.

"I was looking for pieces," de la Martinez continues, "and someone mentioned the Smyth Serenade. 1 rang Universal [one of Smyth's original publishers] and Smyth's original publishers], and they sent me a photocopy of the score. I fell in love with it as soon as I heard it. I was amazed that this great composer had been so neglected."

neglected."

De la Martinez has since recorded the Serenade, in addition to Dame Ethyl's Double Concerto, a work for Violin, Horn and Orchestra, on a critically acclaimed Chandos CD (CHAN 9449) with the BBC Philharmonic, an orchestra de la Martinez regularly guest conducts. (She was the first woman to conduct a complete BBC Promenade concert, a prestigious event in the UK.) The conductor has also overseen a concert performance as well as the first recording of Smyth's third opera, *The Wreckers*, for Conifer Records. Additional recordings of Smyth's works — which de la Martinez is not yet at liberty to discuss - are in the

Not surprisingly, the concluding work on the January 25 program is the aforementioned Double Concerto, which, says de la Martinez, "isn't as difficult as the Serenade," but whose solo parts are challenging nonetheless. "Violinists are used to lots of concertos," she explains, "but there aren't so many for horn, so the horn part at least seems particularly." part at least seems particularly difficult.

'The piece is from the end of the composer's career," says the conductor, "and it finds her fully in charge of her musical and technical abilities. It's a wholly distinctive voice. She does what she likes, and that's what is so pleasurable."

De la Martinez bristles when people (like this interviewer) remark on how much Smyth's Serenade sounds like Brahms, who wrote some of his most enduring music in this idiom. "Of course it does, that was her musical milieu" she says of Smyth, who learned musical composition in Leipzig, where Brahms' music still reigns supreme. "But when I first heard Elgar I thought he sounded like Brahms, until I came to know his music and recognized his distinctive sound. After all, in Beethoven you can hear the influence of Handel.

"The Serenade is the work of a



Dame Ethyl Smyth

young composer," de la Martinez adds, "but you can still hear Ethyl Smyth. Brahms is very classical in his orchestration, which tends to remain the same. Smyth really takes liberties in the orchestration she's actually

Tchaikovsky in that way, Because of her mercurial temperament, the moods change all the time. You'wouldn't have that happening so quickly in Brahms."

Since Smyth is remembered more as a suffragette than a composer — deafness forced her to give up music for writing — her voluminous musical scores have fallen into neglect. "The scores for the Serenade were literally rotting in a box at Universal's London office," says de la Martinez. "Reconstructing the parts has been a lot of hard work." And the work isn't finished either. As a consequence, the music for the Double Concerto on the players' desks Saturday will be copies of Smyth's original 1927 manuscript, not engraved music. "It's messy-looking and hard to read, because it's a really old manuscript and the writing is old-fashioned," de la Martinez observes. "But to listen to, it's won-derful."

Life and energy

The conductor has arranged the rest of her program — all of it music she has conducted previously — "like a meal with different courses. It's nice to give audiences different things to taste." She calls the opening work, loan ences different things to taste." She calls the opening work, Joan Tower's Island Rhythms, a strongly rhythmic piece that makes a good overture. "People relax. And Jamaican composer Eleanor Alberga's Sun Warrior is very Caribbean, which touches my Cuban roots. It also has a wonderful sense of rhythm. American audiences above all appreciate rhythm, life and energy in music."

In addition to her many confidence of the support of the suppor

In addition to her many conducting assignments, de la Martinez is also the founder and music director of her own contemporary music ensemble, Lontano, as well her own record label, Lorelt. The two were reaired most. tano, as well her own record label, Lorelt. The two were paired most recently for a recording of Pierre Boulez's Le Marteau sans maitre, the only recording of the work not conducted by its composer, who remains one of the most in-fluential figures on today's con-

temporary music scene.
Reflecting on her career, de la
Martinez allows that the road is smoother for women conductors now than it was when she began conducting in the early 1980s.

"Then, the orchestras, which were mostly made up of men — at least in Europe — found it very difficult to have a woman telling them what to do. But as more and more women role models have ap-peared on the scene, orchestras peared on the scene, orchestras have found it easier to accept women conductors. But it's still hard," she adds. "Being a conductor is hard. Being a woman conductor is very hard."

De la Martinez calls The Women's Philharmonic and her European Women's Orchestra "easylly cond and corpuitted" to

"equally good and committed" to the same goal — promoting the work of women. "Otherwise I can't compare them, because I don't believe in competition. When it comes to advocating women's music, the only way to work forward is to join hands."

The Women's Philharmonic performs January 25 (8 p.m.) at Herbst Theatre. For tickets (\$20-\$35), call City Box Office at (415) 392-4400. For more information about WP's 1997 concert season, call (415) 437-

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SCHEDULE

Philharmonic's anniversary season

he Women's Philharmonic opens its 15th concert season at Herbst Theatre on Saturday, January 25, with "Symphonic Sunrise," a concert conducted by Odaline de la Martinez featuring Joan Tower's Island Rhythms, Eleanor Alberga's Sun Warrior, and the Concerto for Violin, Horn and Orchestra, of Dame Ethyl Smyth (see accompanying story).

Smyth (see accompanying story).

The following two concerts, which also feature only music of women composers, showcase conducting talents of the two additional candidates for the orchestra's new artistic director/conductor post. On March 1, San Francisco's own J. Karla Lemon will conduct "The Sounds of Light," a program that includes two historical works, Camilla de Rossi's Interludes for Strings (c. 1710) and Melanie Bonis' Suite en forme de vales (1898), as well as Kaija Saariaho's Verblendung, and Hilary Tan's With the heather and small birds. Min Xiao-Fen will perform Sudden Thunder, Bun-Ching Lam's 1994 concerto for the guitar-like pipa, a traditional Chinese instrument.

Tam's 1994 concerto for the guital-race pipa, a traditional consistrument.

"Memories and New Music" on March 29 will be conducted by Apo Hsu and will feature the pianist Wu Han in Clara Schumann's Piano Concerto in A Minor. Also on the program are Katherine Hoover's Two Sketches, Mary Howe's Spring Pastorale, and Thea Musgrave's The Seasons. Concerts will be performed at Herbst Theatre. For information, call (415) 437-0123. ▼

An Ab Fab 'Salome' — not!

by Paul Thomason

f you ever wondered what would happen if someone took the cast of Comedy Cen-tral's "Absolutely Fabulous" and tral's "Absolutely Fabulous" and turned them loose on Richard Strauss's Salome, just trot down to the Civic Auditorium and get a ticket for the San Francisco Opera's newest production. The company's Salome, unveiled last Saturday, is often hysterically funny, campy beyond words, and tacky in the extreme. Unfortunately, that is not what Strauss intended. The result was the worst performance of a German opera I have ever seen. have ever seen.

The production by General Manager Lotfi Mansouri, with sets by Wolfram Skalicki, cossets by Wolfram Skalicki, cos-tumes by Maria-Luise Walek, and lighting by Thomas J. Munn, is a cross between drag night at a sleazy bar and a Sunday School biblical pageant given in the base-ment of a fundamentalist church in the Deep South. Vast swathes of blue gossamer curtains frame a huge cut-out, textured moon and a steeply raked circular set, on which colored lights intermittenty flash. Sometimes abstract designs are projected onto every-thing, where they jiggle for a bit. As Oscar Wilde, from whose play the opera's libretto is drawn, once said on a completely different subject, "The results are not at all overburdened with good taste."

The very fact that Salome would be given in the barn of the

Civic shows how profoundly un-musical the SF Opera manage-ment is. Yes, Strauss wrote for a huge orchestra, and he sometimes asked that all 100-plus members play loudly at the same time. But much more often he used his or

chestra delicately, providing an astounding array of instrumental colors and timbres, layering textures of sound atop each other to provide a ravishing foundation for this erotic tale of dementia and decadence. The SF Opera Orchestra (using a reduced orchestration), under Ralf Weikert in his local debut, varied dynamics adtration), under Kair Weikert in his local debut, varied dynamics ad-mirably. From time to time one heard the celesta, a solo clarinet or oboe. But, thanks to the Civic's acoustics, or perhaps the quirky sound system currently in use, there was no sense of orchestral presence. From Row O downstairs, what one heard was an un-

times she was loud, sometimes she times she was loud, sometimes she was inaudible. The idea that Salome can be sung, and even sung beautifully, as a way of creating a riveting character on stage, was a concept foreign to most of the singers Saturday. Clad in a nightgown left over from Lucia di Lammermoor, Huffstodt roamed about as if she had no clue what either as if she had no clue what either Salome or *Salome* were about. She was not alone in her clue-

lessness. Mezzo Judith Forst dis-played a nice laugh as Herodias and tenor William Cochran ges-tured expansively as Herod: As Jokanaan, baritone Bernd Weikl sometimes sounded fine while

As Oscar Wilde once said on a completely different subject, 'The results are not at all overburdened with good taste.'

differentiated block of sound that often seemed removed from what was happening on stage

McDiva

Any well-run company that wants to do Salome begins by making sure it has a Salome. American soprano Karen Huffstodt recorded the French version of the opera for Virgin Classics in 1990. She barely survived that ordeal vocally, so naturally the SF Opera signed her up to do the role on stage. Saturday night was her local debut, and the results were so inadequate that Huffstodt will probably become a frequent presence with the company. Her performance was one of desperation: isolated notes stitched together with no sense of phrasing, color, emotion or character. Some

standing on the edge of his cis-tern, but when underground, his singing was painfully off. Perhaps he could not hear the orchestra? Of the principals, only tenor Kurt Streit as Narraboth sang and acted superbly. Unfortunately for the audience, Narraboth commits suicide fairly early in the evening. Saturday night I envied him.

Salome continues at the Civic Auditorium through February 1. For tickets (\$8 to \$125) and information, call (415) 864-3330.



SCHEDULE

SFO's 75th season

he San Francisco Opera's 75th season will begin with a gala concert at the War Memorial Opera House on September 5. Hosted by Beverly Sills, guests will include Joan Sutherland, Leonie Rysanek, and Richard Bonynge. Performing that night will be Marilyn Horne, Ruth Ann Swenson, Carol Vaneess, Deborah Voight, Placido Domingo, Jerry Hadley, Thomas Hampson, Richard Leech, James Morris and Samuel Ramey. Three parties will surround the concert, and tickets for the event (ranging from \$5,000 per box seat to \$110 for balcony side seats) are separate from season subscriptions.

surround the concert, and tickets for the event (ranging from \$5,000 per box seat to \$110 for balcony side seats) are separate from season subscriptions.

The season will run through January 18 with 77 performances of nine operas. Two operas will receive new productions: Rigoletto (Swenson/Rost, Zaremba/Keen, Gavanelli/Robertson, Leech/Beltran/Lopardo; production by Mark Lamos) and Pelleas et Melisande (von Stade, Keenlyside; production by Colin Graham). Rigoletto will be conducted by David Robertson and Patrick Summers, Pelleas by company music director Donald Runnicles. Benjamin Britten's Death in Venice will receive its company premiere with Kenneth Riegel and Alfonso Antoniozzi heading the cast, conducted by Runnicles, produced by Loft Mansouri.

Tosca opened the War Memorial Opera House in 1932, and that production, by Armando Agnini, will be recreated by Thierry Bosquet as the season opener. The cast includes Vaness/Lukacs, Margison/Malagnini, Morris/Leiferkus. The two German operas being given next season are Wagner's Der Fliegende Holländer (Charbonnet, Morris, Winbergh, Very, Hawlata/von Halem with Boder conducting) and Strauss' Elektra (Connell, Ginzer/Nielsen, Schwarz, MacMaster, Held, with Jiri Kout conducting).

Danish baritone Bo Skovhus makes his U.S. opera debut as the Count in Le Nozze di Figaro (McNair, Kringelborn, Kirchschlager, Terfel/Furlanetto, conducted by Runnicles and directed by Sciutti). Guillaume Tell (Racette, Lafont, Merritt, Lloyd, conducted by Summers) and Eugene Onegin (Prokina, Tarasova, Michaels-Moore, Very, Halfvarson with Yuri Temirkanov making his SP Opera debut as both conductor and director) complete the season.

To receive a subscription brochure call 415-864-3330. Season tickets are available now through June. Triplet series will go on sale in April, and singlet ticket sales begin August 18.

Standing room tickets, limited to one ticket per person, are on sale at 10 a.m. the day of the performance. The price is \$10 for regularly priced operas, \$12 for Tosca, Rigoletto

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Censorship

◀ Arts cover

service and that's what keeps them there. But the initial draw is the quantity of images and the se-

Whatever the draw, it's working. Badpuppy has grown to more than 17,000 paid subscribers 17,000 paid subscribers with a near-zero attrition rate, with several hundred new customers each week. The company employs two dozen people, including Pinyon, who left NASA last year to work on the Internet full-time. But Baddunpny's employees Badpuppy's employees and subscribers are all operating under a threat of censorship called the Communications Decency Act.
Introduced

Congress last year and currently under constitutional review before the Supreme Court, the CDA restricts indecent material from circulating on the Internet,

justin New Review 1230 Melrose VR Warld Debut Contribute

and holds the provider responsi-ble for ensuring that all users who view adult material are adults who

whether I wanted to keep running the risk of getting in trouble with the government or conform to the

the government or conform to the rules of the Decency Act," says Pinyon. Even though the CDA hasn't gone into effect yet, Pinyon opted to restrict access to his erotica as best he could.

"If the CDA were thrown out right now, I would probably maintain my standards," he says. 'You have to do everything in your power to make sure this does not fall into the hands of children. I think adult sites should conform to that anyway." to that anyway.

Freedoms in peril

Freedoms in peril

The Court should issue a ruling on the act by this summer. Beyond the CDA, however, lurk more restrictive laws. If the Supreme Court strikes down the CDA, other legislation will replace it; if the CDA is upheld, further legislation will likely narrow cyberfreedoms even more. None of this bodes well for Badpuppy, or any of the hundreds of other adult gay sites on the Internet, regardless of their current standards.

"If we had to, we could move

dards.
"If we had to, we could move to another country. That is an option we are considering," Pinyon says, citing Amsterdam with its more lenient obscenity laws as a likely destination. "But I think the American people are going to wake up and say let us make our own decisions."
"It would be a shame to have the communications capital of the

"It would be a shame to have the communications capital of the world not be involved in the Internet," says Richard Laermer, whose gay online bible Get On With It is due out this spring. "The CDA will kill the gay universe on-line, unless we fight them to high hell."

Tom Rielly founder of Plan-

them to high hell.

Tom Rielly, founder of PlanetOut, a multipurpose gay on-line provider, doesn't think the entire gay on-line universe is at stake. PlanetOut, for instance, will like-PlanetOut, for instance, will likely not be affected by the CDA; even though browsers can link into other, adult-oriented sites through PlanetOut, the website itself doesn't have any explicit content. Nonetheless, Rielly sees the danger inherent in the legislation. "The CDA is a really bad law, badly written, and I don't expect it to survive court challenges," says Rielly. "But I understand why Badpuppy would want to be cautious. If one overzealous district

attorney decides to make it a cause, to get publicity, or they want to run for gov-ernor or mayor, they [Badpuppy] could exhaust a lot of money in legal fees defending themselves against a frivolous suit."

Different restrictions

Meanwhile, Rielly has his own editorial freedoms and "frivolous" concerns to worry about. While worry about. While Badpuppy—along with other, smaller explicit gay websites — is up against the CDA and obscenity laws, PlanetOut — along with other less explicit gay websites — is up against different content restrictions

tions.
PlanetOut is available over America Online and MSN (the Microsoft Network), and can also

Network), and can also be accessed for free on the World Wide Web. Instead of supporting itself with paid subscriptions, PlanetOut relies on advertising on its site. Major sponsors – American Airlines, for example – bring money and polish to PlanetOut, but they can also limit what content can be included.

but they can also limit what con-tent can be included.

"You've got to be pretty damn milquetoast if you want to get the big boys to advertise," Laermer says. And this is a Catch-22, since it's the more daring and original providers who command the greatest atten-tion and loyalty. "In order to be a provider and have people stick with

tion and loyalty. "In order to be a provider and have people stick with you, you've got to be doing something extraordinary."

While subscriber services like Badpuppy are in the awkward spot of keeping content hot enough to lure customers but tame enough to avoid "decency" regulations, Laermer thinks advertiser-driven sites like PlanetOut are also in a difficult position. If they keep their content PG-13 to satisfy sponsors, they risk losing customers looking for more mature material who are

risk losing customers looking for more mature material who are willing to pay a subscription rate to enjoy a racier website.

"The people at PlanetOut and the people at Badpuppy, who I think have the same idea, are in a position of deciding who they want to get their morey from."

think have the same idea, are in a position of deciding who they want to get their money from," says Laermer. "PlanetOut is not ever going to have a subscriber base, so they've got to have advertising. And eventually, you're going to find yourself neutered by the ad people."

"That's a bit of a false chestnut," counters Rielly. The same charge has been levied against the gay print media since they started running mainstream advertisements, he says, and other than explicit pornography, content hasn't been limited in those outlets despite dire predictions. But net surfers are less easily reassured. There's plenty of buzz on the Internet about censorship and restriction of gay material on commercial providers, from Compuserve to America Online to PlanetOut itself.

Most gay on-line services tend to follow the models of PlanetOut and Badpuppy. If they want major advertising dollars, they tone down the sex and adhere to sponsors' content standards. If they want subscriber dollars, they use crotica to lure users and run the

want subscriber dollars, they use erotica to lure users and run the risk of governmental interference. Either way, it seems, cyberspace might not be a forum for unparalleled gay editorial freedom for long. ▼





rden membership and a valid photo 1.D. are required (one time memberships available You must be 18 years or older. Tanning bed time given on a first come-first served basis. One discount and valid per visit. Tanning offer valid through 2,28 97.

JD Gamber Design: Piper's Vision

Phallophotography

Thomas Waugh's 'Hard To Imagine'

by Roberto Friedman

irty pictures are as much a part of gay male culture as opera or ballet. Nasty snapshots are how we have celebrated the erotic charge of the male body, how we have recorded the body, how we have recorded the beautiful corporeal forms of our lovers or tricks, how we have documented our orgies and fantasies. Homosexuality and the "Kodak moment" were made for each other, and as scholar Thomas Waugh points out in his monumental new tome, Hard To Imagine: Gay Male Eroticism in Photography and Film from Their Beginnings to Stonewall (Columbia University Press), photography as University Press), photography as a mass medium and homosexual liberation as a mass movement both had their beginnings in the

Imagine are not in any way sub-servient to the text; in fact, their publication is a liberating event itpublication is a liberating event itself. "Why show penetration, erections and forbidden body parts touching and entering each other, despite having been told by a major publisher of gay literature that even erections are iffy?" Waugh asks. "... Quite simply, a society's soul can only be illuminated by its forbidden zones; a howdlerized history is a false bis.

hated by its forbidden zones; a bowdlerized history is a false his-tory, ours or any other." Hard To Imagine sorts its nudie pix into four categories: Art, Physique Culture, the Illicit, and the Instrumental (photos taken under the pretext of law, science or medicine). The history of each "regime" is recounted, from the beginnings of photochemical imaging in the mid-1800s imaging in the mid-1800s through 1969, when possibilities

toid development than sexual display. Waugh follows the march of progress from posing-pouch photo spreads to the frontal male nudity pioneered in "danglie" photo mags such as Butch and Tiger. A Kris Studio photo of an early '60s bachelor in his pad, washing dishes in the buff shows just how far from the gym the musclemags had come.

Most remarkably, Waugh's studies of illicit photography and film document what a rich history the naughty picture has had.

hlm document what a rich history the naughty picture has had. There are some private photos reproduced here, dating from the early years, which rival the explicitness of today's commercial pornography: a young man pisses through a funnel into his buddy's open mouth (c.1900); two sporty types compare ejections by open mouth (c. 1900); two sporty types compare erections by weighing them on a scale (Naples, c. 1920s). Studio photography gave way to amateur snapshots with "a new participatory and mobile vantage point," the instamatic camera offering a "revised optics of the body, centered on the crotch-shot close-up." Waugh proposes that the new close-up perspective was responsible for our current "erotics of penis size. ...One might indeed think that the 'size queen' was created by the close-up lens..." It's a provocative suggestion, one that merits closer study. Telephoto lens, please.

Waugh's survey ends just before the advent of the video camera, and the boom in homemade

era, and the boom in homemade

Italian couple. Arthur Schulz, c. 1900.

pornography which ensued. He is so thorough with daguerreotype and Polaroid, one wonders what he could do with the under-ground wealth of do-it-yourself videos and digital imaging. But he has given us a good, long, lingering look at our photochemical history, an indispensable volume, a master collection of stroke pictures and their throbbing importance to gay lives.



Sig Ulmanis as '60s bachelor washing dishes for Kris Studio,

19th century, and their develop-

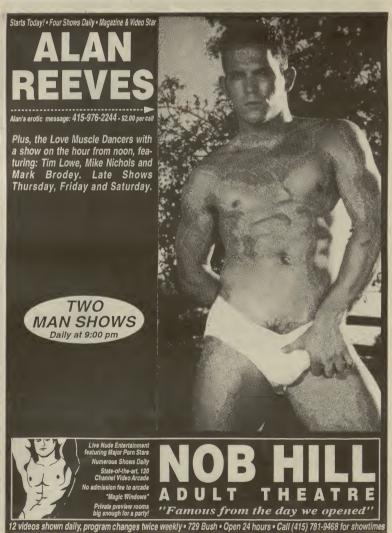
19th century, and their develop-ments have closely paralleled each other through the 20th.

Waugh's book is a triumph of queer scholarship, both for its in-telligent and necessary analysis of homoerotic photography, and for its unashamed celebration of the treasures it catalogs. The author admits that his "personal stake in this gay erotica project was ... equal admits that his "personal stake in this gay erotica project was ... equal parts political, intellectual, and li-bidinal." Professor of Film Studies at Concordia University in Mon-treal, Waugh explicitly opposes the "right-wing feminist antiporn backlash" in his country which would stifle expressions of our li-bidinal impulses. In horny defense bidinal impulses. In horny defense he writes, "Fuck photos have al-ways had to serve not only as our stroke materials but also, to a large extent, as our family snapshots and wedding albums, as our cultural history and political validation."

The 400 pictures in Hard To

and outlets grew exponentially. Waugh does an archeologist's job unearthing historical gems in each category, and describes the evolution of gay consciousness in art and clinical photography with great insight. But it is in the chapters on physique pix and (privately made, non-commercial) illicit materials that he really breaks new ground.

The physique movement of-fered an alibi to men interested in photos of stripped-down, oiled-up male bodies. Athlete beefcake had been a part of the art of pho-tography since its inception, first under cover of "classical art" discus-throwers, gladiators, etc.— then in tandem with the Physical Culture movement in Germany and elsewhere. The golden age of musclemags in the '50s saw the advent of Grecian Guild Pictorial and Physique Pictorial, publications which were less about del-



Derek Jarman

The last of Jarman

Kicking the Pricks by Derek Jarman; Overlook Press, \$26.95

he late Derek Jarman made innovative, accessible popmusic videos for the Smiths, the Pet Shop Boys and other groups, and sensual, visually stimulating feature films that inspired and occasionally agitated his audiences. The creator of Carayara and occasionally agitated his audiences. The creator of Caravage gio, The Angelic Conversation, Edward II, Wittgenstein, and Blue died of AIDS in 1994 at age 52, but the answer to his post-diagnosis query — "Ten feet under, am I still part of this?" — is a resounding yes. His films play throughout the world, his activism continues to benefit British tivism continues to benefit British queers, and his influence on the

cinema can be seen in works both experimental and mainstream.

Jarman posed the above question about immortality in "Hope," a poem included in Kicking the Pricks, the journal he kept ing the Pricks, the journal he kept during the making of The Last of England. The gritty, impressionistic film analyzed what he perceived as Britain's decline into greed, militarism and poverty (of wallet and soul). Many consider the 1987 picture, shot on Super-8 and blown up to 35mm, to be his finest effort. finest effort.

The frequent use of Super-8 during Jarman's first 15 years as a filmmaker was as much a func-tion of his finances as an aesthet-ic preference, but he learned how to make the most of the medium. In Kicking the Pricks the director declares that with The Last of England he "has broken new ground" and that "it makes the work of my contemporaries pale into conformity," Such boasting might seem delusional, but there's a grain of truth to his proclamations, particularly the first. Oliver Stone's 1995 Natural Born Killers contains some uncannily similar Super-8 sequences, and there are more than a few echoes (literally) of England's sound sculpturing in Francis Ford Coppola's 1992 Bram Stoker's Dracula.

Kicking the Pricks, which was published in Britain in the late 1980s as The Last of England, is the fourth and final volume of Jarman diaries distributed in the United States by Overlook Press. At once enlightening and exasperation the book provides in the province i

At once enlightening and exas-perating, the book provides in-sight into a complex film, but it rambles a bit too much, an open-ing note about Jarman's considerable revisions to his text notwith-

standing.

The book only hits its stride about halfway through, when the discussion of *The Last of England* begins in earnest. Jarman always left room for audiences to interpret his cinema, as opposed to manipulating them toward a par-ticular conclusion. But it's interesting to learn what individual scenes and shots meant to him, and how and why he incorporat-

scenes and shots meant to him, and how and why he incorporated home movies shot by his grandfather and father into the piece. Jarman's thoughts about his art are also provocative, as is his assertion that filmmakers "should bring much more of their experience to their work than they do," rather than be "content to be transmitters of the second-hand." Ironically, Kicking itself feels somewhat second-hand. The book includes several vignettes that are also reprinted in the author's later tomes (Overlook and Jarman's estate seem determined to market the artist's every last scribbling and photograph), among them, Derek Jarman's Garden (1995) and At Your Own Risk, the latter a very fine "testament" about sexuality that was published in the U.S. in 1993.

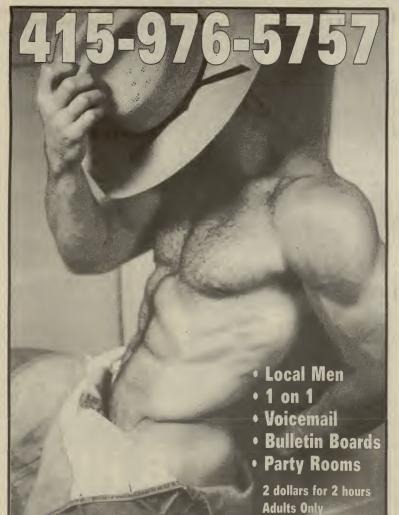
Kicking the Pricks isn't Jarman at his best, but he's never dull. He takes on all comers, from Oliver Cromwell to Margaret Thatcher Toromwell to Margaret Thatcher to fellow filmmakers Stephen Frears and Peter Greenaway. And if he is at times cranky and self-aggrandizing, his passion for life and art — and his desire to make a difference during his time on this planet — come through loud and clear.

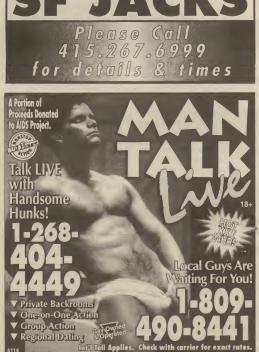
COMMUNITY

Magic Theatre hosts writing workshop

agic Theatre's commitment to new American playwrights includes a unique learning project for high school students. The Young California Writer's Project teams students with a professional playwright for an intensive eight weeks of writing and rewriting their own plays. The pieces are then performed by professional actors at Magic Theatre. I attended last year's plays out of a sense of obligation, and was profoundly moved by the quality of the work. If it's been a while since you left high school, you will be amazed at how things have changed. The performances, on January 28-29 (at the Magic Theatre), are free but reservations are encouraged. Call 441-8001 for information. -Deborah Peifer

WHERE MEN JACK OFF TOGETHER





Haunted house

by Daniel Harris

The House on Brooke Street by Neil Bartlett; Dutton, \$21.95

he narrator of British writer Neil Bartlett's The House on Brooke Street is not the typical gutsy, gay liberation role model from the pre-Stonewall era but a pale, paper-pushing nonentity who spends his entire life as a clerk in a department store, his sole pleasures being his booze and his weekly sojourn to a Turkish bathhouse. Having just emerged from this den of iniquity, the pedantic Mr. Page slips on the ice and falls into the arms of Mr. Clive, a decadent aristocrat to whom he bears a striking physical resemblance but who is in many ways his spiritual opposite, the wealthy scion of a cultured American entrepreneur and a bold and incautious aesthete who is busily squandering his family's entire fortune. The House on Brooke Street tells the story of six months during the 1920s in the lives of these two unlikely friends, one of whom is staring into the face of financial ruin, the other into the face of something altogether more frightening, a frustrated life as a 400 hunceret.

face of something altogether more frightening, a frustrated life as a dull bureaucrat.

Although Bartlett compassionately examines the frustrations and disappointments of Mr. Page's thoroughly pathetic life as a closeted homosexual (alone at Christmas, he exchanges presents with himself and stages a mock dinner party), his narrator is really nothing more than a spy at the keyhole, the jaundiced observer of

a much more curious character, the enigmatic Mr. Clive. Teetering on the brink of bankruptcy, this wealthy sexual outlaw manages to slip out of the noose that his creditors are drawing around him and elope with the man of his dreams. Told some thirty years after the fact, The House on Brooke Street takes the form of a rambling, stream-of-consciousness confession that Mr. Page delivers during an imaginary interrogation by a censorious member of the vice squad investigating his friend's great escape. The book's unifying metaphor, and the source of much of its richness, is Mr. Clive's house itself, a masterpiece of elegance and privacy that Bartlett describes with hypnotic intensity. Its soundproofed rooms and labyrinth of hidden corridors become a poignant architectural symbol of the dual life of the homosexual, with its public facade and splendid receiving rooms, its mysterious private quarters, and sterile, dimly lit hallways that branch off into dark cul de sacs leading to secret chambers.

Bartlett has brilliantly recreated the conditions of reticence and

Bartlett has brilliantly recreated the conditions of reticence and shame under which gay men met and cruised during the 1920s, capturing the unspoken nature of their furtive communications, the intricate code of sly glances and seemingly innocuous pleasantries that homosexuals used like radar to ferret out other members of their persuasion. The relations between Mr. Clive and Mr. Page are entirely devoid of candor, which has been quite effectively replaced with something even more honest and sincere, the skillful use of in-

nuendo and double-entendres. The opening chapters of the novel in particular plumb the depths of the archaic psychology of recognition, of the insinuations and visual clues that gay men once used to identify themselves to each other without risking exposure, communicating their preferences in such a way that only the initiated could detect their sexual interest.

terest.

The House on Brooke Street also explores another extremely interesting feature of gay culture, the way in which the psychological burden of oppression unifies different social classes, brings together as peers men separated by otherwise insurmountable discrepancies of education and income. Bartlett draws attention to the highly democratic nature of the gay experience by emphasizing the physical similarity of his two heroes, who become each other's spiritual twin, an alternative self marooned in separate and incommensurable worlds that collide for a few brief months. The House on Brooke Street is a kind of two-way mirror through which gay men of vastly different vocations and temperaments strike up an instantaneous friendship, a rapport that cuts across the gulf that divides them, the barriers of outlook and income that their homosexuality so movingly overrides.

Daniel Harris's The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture will appear in May from Hyperion.



Neil Bartlett

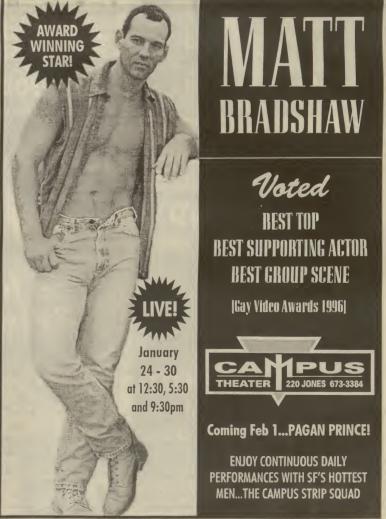


EVENT

Ethel Merman resurrected

ould you bear to miss a performance of The Ethel Merman Memorial Choir? Of course not. Tuesday, January 28, is the date, 450 Geary is the place, and, in addition to TEEMMC, you'll have a chance to schmooze with friends over cocktails and enjoy a performance of Zachary Barton's One Scary Woman. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and proceeds benefit the upcoming third annual Working Women Festival. Call 673-1172 for information.





Limbo bound

by Deborah Peifer

Toward Amnesia by Sarah Van Arsdale; Riverhead, \$11

mnesia. There is something so frightening about the idea of amnesia, and yet, in times of great sorrow, don't we long for forgetfulness? In her stunning first novel, now available in paperback, Sarah Van Arsdale explores a woman's conscious attempt to erase a past too painful

to remember.

After months of agonizing over an old relationship — you

Forget the milk!



know the drill: calling her number to hear the voice, driving past her house to see if her car is there, obsessing about the new woman in her life — the unnamed narrator of *Toward Amnesia* decides to make a complete break with her

self. Starting with small choices, like a switch from drinking coffee with cream to taking it black, she with cream to taking it black, she moves on to bigger things, like trading her Toyota for a 1950 Chevy and leaving her home in search of an island where she can reinvent herself. Cut off from friends and familiar things, she becomes Virginia Didelphis and forgets her ex-lover and her wounded life.

Van Arsdale is a fine writer.

wounded life.

Van Arsdale is a fine writer
who explores a broken heart with
depth and clarity. I found myself
remembering break-ups long past
and making sense of events in my
life that had hitherto been mystifying. In Van Arsdale's sure hand,
a mystical subplot concerning a
catamount becomes both plausicatamount becomes both plausible and intensely spiritual. *Toward* Amnesia is an extraordinary novel, filled with pain but remarkably lacking in self-pity, a journey away from self that becomes, in fact, a relentless search for an authentic self.

Sarah Van Arsdale will read from Toward Amnesia at A Different Light Bookstore on

Scared

by Deborah Peifer

Finale, edited by Michael Nava; Alyson, \$10.95

can only imagine that Michael Nava decided one day that too many of us were sleeping too soundly, dreaming too blissfully, feeling too safe. Why else would he collect eight deliciously creepy,

Richard Hall

scary stories with which to tempt the unwary reader? I know I've assigned my cat to the first watch at my house, and I expect to be keeping her company as I spend the night telling myself, "They're only stories"

In his introduction, Nava ex-In his introduction, Nava ex-plains that "though it is the bas-tard child of literature, the mys-tery has always attracted first-class writers." Amen. Nava certainly proves that in this collection, He goes on to state that although all of the authors are gay or lesbian, "these are not stories about the

experience of being gay, they are about gay people's experiences." The result is an anthology that speaks to the richness of our lives while it scares us to death.

Not all of the tales are designed to terrify. Katherine V. Forrest's "Jessie" is a compelling police procedural in miniature filled procedural in miniature filled with richly detailed characters. And Nava's own contribution, "Street People," is a surprisingly satisfying story of a street kid and a hustler and the ways in which the helping institutions can do more harm than good.

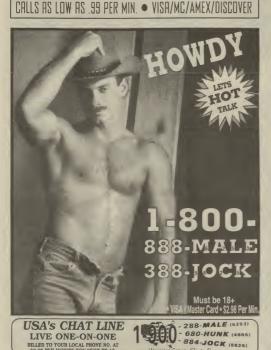
Vincent Lardo's "All About Steve" is a tale of backstage backstabbing that persuasively combines wit and malice. Richard Hall's "Death Writes A Story" (you have to put death in the title.

(you have to put death in the title, don't you know) takes a homophobic character and provides as twisted a conclusion as you could

twisted a conclusion as you could possibly hope for.
Editor Nava does a fine job ordering the stories, giving readers just enough of a break from creepiness to allow breathing to return to normal before opening the door to new terrors. Finale is a collection to be read in the given order. But before you start, you order. But before you start, you might check to see that all the doors are locked.

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LIVE ONE-ON-ONE

Out There

◄ page **35**

Duchess of York, Romeo & Julier star Claire Danes, Lori Petty (Tank Girl), Elizabeth Shue (Leaving Las Vegas), Helen Hunt, Glenn Close, and Friends star Lisa Kudrow. But hey, wait a minut. Plackuell force to meet minute, Blackwell forgot to mention his dead ringer, Sylvia Miles.

Reading lessons for Miss Manners

Finally, we'd like to thank that nice letter-writer who upbraided us for being so negative at Out

There. Thank you, Miss Civility. Now that your indignation has been duly recorded, however, we'd like to point out an egregious misapprehension in your missive. Out There has never had a bad word for Keanu Reeves. In fact, just last week in an item about the word for **Reanin Reeves**. In fact, just last week, in an item about the actor's withdrawal from a film in which he was to play a gay actor — which, by the way, is news worth reporting to readers of a gay and lesbian newspaper — we referred to him as "Out There's eternal heartthrob." Is that negative? Perhaps certain sprigne critical parting? tive? Perhaps certain aspiring critics should learn to read a little more closely before they start hurling snippy invective.

from 4 pm



The scarlet woman

by Sweet Lips

weet Lips sez: Cast your im-perial vote for John for em-peror and Crimson (a.k.a. The Scarlet Woman) for empress. This toothsome twosome has been together for ages, and they've done many good deeds in the community. Certailly they'd add some luster to SF's royal pedi-gree! Whichever candidate you se-lect remember to yet any Seture lect, remember to vote on Satur-day, February 15!

day, February 15!
Also, please note that the coronation the following Saturday, February 22, marks the 30th anniversary of Empress II Bella's crowning! The beloved Bella, a fixture of San Francisco's Swinging Sixties, still looks the ingenue today in 1997, breaking hearts **Cocktail Hour**

breaking hearts on Castro Street amidst her floral fantasies.

Sea of Grass Dept.: Don't miss the Lone Star's Girth and Mirth Beer Bust on Saturday, January 25. The LS patio can't be beat for 25. The LS patio can't be beat for hairy, humpy guys who don't shop at Macy's (no sweater queens allowed). This event promises to be big and beautiful, and rumor has it that notorious full-figured gal Greta Grass may be lurking in the shadows! Watch your peanuts!

Happy belated birthday wishes go out to that fountain of

es go out to that fountain of

youth, C.T., one of the original advertisers in this august publication. If not for rampant gossip – which we, of course, turn a deaf ear to – I'd never have guessed you were 50, doll! Those rubber bands really do work!

That terrific Tyler wants to remind everyone about Kimo's Super Bowl party and raffle, featuring 49er QB Steve Young's (yes, he's a Mormon, but he's still hot) autographed, museum-quality,

he's a Mormon, but he's still hot) autographed, museum-quality, framed jersey – currently hanging at the bar if you care to take a look. The sweat smell emanating from this artifact is quite intoxicating, though that might have been the four sidecars I downed! Anyway, tickets are only \$1, and all proceeds go to the National AIDS Memorial Grove in

i Hour Golden Gate
Park. Support
this very worthy
cause by opening your heart and
pocketbook!

pocketbook!

The lucky Wooden Horse (622
Polk) has Joe Bear policing the plank on Fridays, 6 a.m.-noon, and Sundays, noon-7 p.m. He also works my stomping grounds, the Polk Rendezvous, on various afternoons, 3-8 p.m. Do drop by; he loves company!

ternoons, 3-8 p.m. Do drop by; he loves company!

The 11 a.m. showing of Judge Judy is a PR fixture every day!

Come and enjoy with the trenchant Ronnie Lynn and the ebullient Sweet Lips! Plus a very happy natal day to my Puerto Vallarta

Dolly Dale and his mum

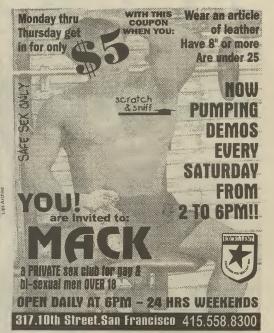
playmate, Dick Deemer, on Thursday (today!), January 23. The tan may have faded, but your charms haven't! Come to the PR at noon and help Dick celebrate! I don't often do plugs (oh, shut up!), but La Posada (2298 Fillmore) has some of the best Mexi-

can food in San Francisco – m better than the mediocre fare certain Market Street establishment that I'm too discreet to name in this column. La Posada has a wonderful staff and an ex-tremely friendly chef; try them for

lunch sometime soon!
Richard and the fabulous
Mario invite all of you to the
Cinch for their 8th anniversary
(they've survived the infamous
seven-year itch!) on Saturday, seven-year (tch!) on Saturday, February 1, and Sunday, February 2. The bash starts both days at 2 p.m. and goes until the wee hours, with superb entertainment and food by that wizard with a whisk, Dennis "Chives and Chiclets" Tyler. Check out the Cinch's new covered patio and fireplace. Quel romanticles.

romantic!

Liplash: In response to a certain professional letter writer in last week's edition (my, he does seem to have a lot of time on his hands), have you never heard of "satire," dear? How about "irony" or, dare I say it, "humor"? Can you spall "exangues restainens"? of, dare Isayi, numor: can you spell "e-x-a-g-g-e-r-a-t-i-o-n"? If I really imbibed as much as I claimed, do you really think I'd be able to tell the tale? No, I'd be pickled (literally) in some back room of the Smithsonian. Please lighten up, pet. It would do you and, I'm sure, your many friends and acquaintances a world of good. In the meantime, do drop by for a libation. Sounds like you could use a good stiff one. could use a good stiff one.







COMMUNITY NEWS

Queer studies expands at CCSF

ity College's spring semester will offer a new class devoted to lesbian, gay and bisexual communities of color. Among the topics covered in this pioneering class will be the relationships of gay, lesbian and bisexual communities of color to the dominant queer movement, and equally, to their home-based racial/ethnic communities and liberation movements. Entitled "GLST" 50 — GLB Communities of Color in the U.S.," the class meets Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9.30 p.m. at the Castro/Valencia Campus, 450 Church Street. Enrollment and registration can be completed on site the Street. Enrollment and registration can be completed on site the

Among the other unique classes offered through the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Studies Department this semester are:

Music 27C, "Music and Queer Identity," meeting Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia Campus

GLST 10, "Lesbian and Gay Culture and Society," meeting Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia Camp

GLST 20, "Lesbians and Gays in Modern American Art and Culture," meeting Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia Campus

GLST 21, "Issues in Lesbian Relationships," meeting Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia campus

GLST 24, "Gay Male Relationships," meeting Mondays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia Campus

GLST 25, "Lesbian and Gay Avant-Garde of the '50s," meeting Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia Campus.

FILM 21A, "Film History: Evolution of Film Expression mosexuality on Film," meeting Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the Phelan Campus, Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia campus, or Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the Castro/Valencia Campus. ▼

Instructions begin this week and students may register through February 3, 1997. Persons interested in signing up for any of the above courses should go to the class meeting, then file the appropriate paperwork to enroll. The cost is \$13 per unit, plus a \$10 health fee. A complete schedule of credit and non-credit classes can be obtained at any City College of San Francisco campus. For more information, contact Jonathan Katz at (415) 239-3876.

OPEN 9:00 am to 2:00 am DAILY (FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ALL NIGHT.)

NOW PLAYING!

145 Eddy St. (between Mason and Taylor Sts.) one block from MUNI and BART HALLIDI Plaza Station. INFO TEL: 885-9887

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MON:THUR:12:30-2:30-6:00-8:30PM FRI:12:30-2:30-6:00-7:30-9:00-11:00PM SATURDAY:1:00-4:00-7:30-9:00-11:00PM SUNDAY:1:00-4:00-6:00-8:30PM

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4 MOVIES SHOWING ON THE MAIN SCREEN •4 MOVIES SHOWING IN THE BACK LOUNGE

•2 MOVIES CHANGE EVERY MONDAY

•2 MOVIES CHANGE EVERY FRIDAY





Harry Hay (left) and John Burnside

Making hay

ocal filmmaker Eric Slade is working on a documentary about Harry Hay, so-called father of Gay Liberation, founder of the seminal gay rights organization the Mattachine Society, and a key figure in the call for the first Radical Faerie gatherings. At 84, Hay is still kicking around, making a nuisance of himself, like all good activists.

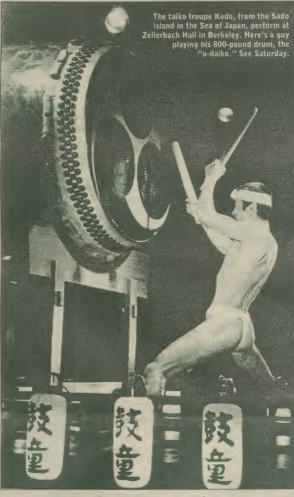
Slade says his project is already shaping up, and that due to Hay's cantankerous nature, interviews with people who have known him are proving to be lively. As one gay historian from UC Santa Cruz put it, Harry and his ideas have always sparked controversy, but you can't ignore his place in gay history. ocal filmmaker Eric Slade is

but you can't ignore his place in gay history.

This weekend, a slew of local performers will present Queer Nights, a kick-off fundraiser produced by Jack Davis (not the obese politico, the cockwarmer-weaver) to benefit Slade's film. Hay and his longtime partner John Burnside will attend both evenings' performances, and Burnside will bring along his celebrated invention, the Symmetricon, which will project kaleidoscopic images onto the bodies of naked dancing boys! But that's not all! that's not all!

The two nights of radical queer performance (Friday and Saturday, January 24 & 25, at 8 p.m. at 848 Com-munity Space, 848 Divisadero) will also feature performances by Carol Queen, Mark Elk Baum, Elizabeth Summers, Sparrow 13 Laughing Wand, Trebor, Timothy Buttercup, and Eric Irebor, I Imothy Buttercup, and Eric Wilcox. Hey, I know most of those guys, and they're terrif! Keith Hennessy will perform at Friday's show, and on Saturday The Man himself, Harry Hay, will be interviewed live on stage by the lovely Joan Jett Blakk. Good luck to Miss Joan getting a word in edgewise. ▼

Tickets are \$10-25 sliding scale, no one turned away for lack of funds.



American Buffalo

American Burrato
Pour Boys Productions and
Genesius Theatre Co. present
David Mamet's gritty drama.
Thurs.-Mon. thru 2/2, \$1517. 8pm. 450 Geary Studio
Theatre, 450 Geary.
673-1172.

Club nZinga

Global dance party, DJ Jose Ruiz. \$5. 9pm-2am. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

Drag Cabaret

Aspiring performers sign up by phone, hostess Billy de Herrera. \$5. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933. CANCELLED

En Drag

Female impersonators revue, hosted by Chablis. \$3, 2 drink min'm. 10&11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Entertaining Mr. Sloane

Mr. Stoane
Joe Orton's drama: brother
and sister's rivalry for a
young man's affections. Fri. &
Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm
thru 2/23. \$14-16. Phoenix
Theatre, 301 8th St.
621-4423.

Fiesta Blanca

de Invierno
Winter White party, 1000
Latinos wearing white. \$10.
21+. 10pm-3am. Futura,
174 3rd St. 665-6715.

Flash Point

Performances by Gretchen At-wood, Anastasia Coon, Beth Dickinson, more. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$8-12. Luna Sea Women's Perf. Proj., 2940 16th St., #216C. 863-2989.

Heaven and the City

Sabrina Alonso in a one-per-son show, as Richard Nixon, evangelical preacher and oth-ers. Fri. & Sat. thru 1/25. \$5-8. 8pm. Wise Fool Puppet Intervention, 395 Valencia. 648-2333.

La Madonna Nera

Tommi Avicolli Mecca's per formance: visions of Black Madonna in South Philadelphia. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

More Than a Mouthful Queer culture TV: gay erotic video awards. 10pm. Cable Ch. 53.

Musty Chiffon

Busty lounge singer live: psychedelic camp repertoire. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru 2/2. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Out for Business Mixer for gay and lesbian professionals, entertainment by Enrique. \$20-25 advance/\$25-30 door. 6-10pm. Ten 15 Club, 1015 Folsom. 267-7610.

Queer Nights

Radical queer performance by Keith Hennessy, Carol Queen, Joan Jett Blakk, more, bene-fits film about Harry Hay. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$10-25.

848. Community Space, 848 Divisadero. 863-2609.

SF: From Diversity to Inclusivity

Symposium includes sessions on "Gay by the Bay" (Jim Van Buskirk, Susan Stryker), "Gay Participation in the Maritime Trades" (Allan Berube). Fri. at 7pm, Sat. 10am-6pm. Free. Koret Audirerum Main Library Civic torium, Main Library, Civic Center. 557-4595.

Sicks Appeal

Dragapella Beauty Shop Quartet perform vamp a cap-pella. Thurs. & Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 8&10pm thru 2/1. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Téatro Bernicé and the Sno-pea Chamber Ensemble pre-sent expressionist opera based on Milos Forman's memoirs. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 2/9. \$8-10. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia, 626-3311.

20/20 Blake

George Coates Performance Works presents musical based on William Blake's The Mar-riage of Heaven and Hell. \$14-34. Fri. & Sat. thru 2/1. 8pm. Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 392-4400

Sat

Badass Girls

Women's films with an edge

incl. "Adventures of White Trash Girl" by Clit-0-Matic/ Jennifer Reeder, more. \$5. 8pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Captain & Tennille

Do it to us one more time: \$13. Doors 9:30pm. Club Universe, 177 Townsend. 985-5241.

El Establo

Latin house music dance party, Happy hr. 5-9pm, \$5. 21+. Sol y Luna, 475 Sacra-mento. 988-9898.

GAPA Banquet

GAYA Banquet
Gay Asian Pacific Alliance
9th anniversary celebration:
luau buffet, exhibition, entertainment. \$50. Cocktails
6pm, dinner 7pm. Holiday Inn
Chinatown, 750 Kearney.
282-GAPA.

Gay Comedy Night

Karen Ripley, Aundre the Wonderwoman, MC Musty Chiffon. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Gay Geeks

First mtg. of social club for gay intellectuals and visiona ies. 2pm. Cafe Commons, 3161 Mission. 679-3680.

Ivanov!

Very loose adaptation of Anton Chekhov's "play about life before Prozac." Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 4pm thru 2/9. \$6-15. Grasshopper Palace, 333 Valencia, 4th fl. 267-6905.

Kodo

Japanese taiko drumming troupe performs. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm. \$20-36. Zeller-bach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

Late Nite with Joan Jett Blakk

Sensational guests, smart talk. \$10. Midnight. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Miss ETVC Cotillion

Selection of Miss ETVC 97, transgender debutantes, per-formances: "A Roman Holi-day." \$23 advance, \$28 door. Meal 6:30pm, show 8pm. California Club, 1750 Clay. 564.3246 564-3246.

Reconstructing Califas:

"New Roads in Chicano Art" exhibit, reception today, 3pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 2/22. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Return of the Fruitcakes

Fruitcakes Kindred Spirits Motorcycle Club presents pan-gay lam-poon, benefits Camp Sun-burst. \$3-5. Doors 8pm, show 9pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

The Stand-In

Keith Curran's satire on ho-mophobia in movie biz, di-rected by Danny Scheie. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3&7pm thru 2/8. \$12-18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Sweet Honey in the Rock

African-rooted music, a cappella singing. \$20.50-27.50. 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 924-JRTX

Women's Play Party

Buffet, chocolate, safe sex supplies provided; byo lube. Doors 8:30-12pm, party til 3am. \$12-15. RSVP req'd: 675-0228.



Antiques and Collectibles

300 dealers selling all types of collectibles, indoor flea

market. \$2. 9:30am-5pm. Pier 29, Sansome at Embarcadero. 956-5316.

Black Orpheus

Mardi Gras in Rio is back-drop for Orpheus myth. Sun. at 2, 4:15; Sun. & Mon. at 7:15, 9:20pm. \$6. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

Cami Thompson

Vocalist, accompanied by Si Perkoff on piano and bass. 7-11pm. Alta Plaza, 2301 Fill-more. 922-1444.

MACT Brunch

Men of All Colors Together potluck brunch: bring "Sup Bowl Food" for 5. 1-3pm. 2nd floor, Lone Star Salooi 1354 Harrison. 675-0201.

Pansy Division

Plays with Team Dresch and Cypher in the Snow, a triple queer threat. All ages. 6pm. Gilman Street, 924 Gilman, Berkeley. (510) 525-9926.



Barbie Takes a Vacation

Malibu Barbie on the road, Malibu Barbie poolside, Trop-ical Barbie on holiday, more vignettes. Thru 3/15. South Terminal, SF International Airport. 876-7883.

Dana Atherton Duo

Piano and bass perform, 7-11pm. Alta Plaza, 2301 Fill-more. 922-1444.

Duplicity

Photography by Brendan Kozik using transparencies and found objects. Thru Jan. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Gay and Lesbian **Book Clubs**

Book Clubs
Gay men's group discusses
Scissors, Paper, Rock by Fenton Johnson; lesbian group
discusses The Bone People by
Keri Hulme. Free. 7pm.
Clean, Well-Lighted Place,
2417 Larkspur Landing,
Marin. 461-0171.

Gay Comedy Open Mike Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Suzy Berger. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933

GMUG

Gay Macintosh Users Group meets. 7pm. New Conservatory Theater, 25 Van Ness. 552-GMUG.



Astronomy, Optics and Outer Space: Photography Beyond the Lim-its exhibit, Tues.-Sun thru 3/16. \$5. Ansel Adams Cen-ter for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Dead Nature

Group show includes artists Jeffrey Dugan, Alejandro Mazon, Ken Kirsch, more. Thru 2/10. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

Fiberotica

Exhibition of 2- and 3-dimensional erotica expressed in fiber. Thru 3/15. Artfibers Gallery, 124 Sutter. 956-6319.

Foggy City Dancers

Gay & lesbian square dancing, free introductory class. 7:30pm. Live Oak School, 117 Diamond. 905-4546.

It's Only Rock & Roll

"Rock & Roll Currents In Contemporary Art" exhibi-tion, Tues.-Sun. thru 2/16. Bedford Gallery, Dean Lesher Reg'l Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. (510) 295-1417.



Loren Cameron

Slide presentation and discussion of Body Alchemy: Transsexual Portraits, free. 7pm.
Barnes & Noble, 2550 Taylor. 292-6762.

Proposal for Surf Vietnam

Simon Leung's installation proposal for site-specific pro-ject on reconcilitation between Vietnam and U.S. Tues.-Sat. thru 2/1. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne, 546-0158.

by

like

Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Still Life

Works by Giovanni Casadei, Theophilus Brown, Carol Doyle, more. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/30. Mulligan-Shanoski, 747 Post. 771-0663.



The Cryptogram

West Coast premiere of David Mamet's drama: disintegration of a marriage thru boy's eyes. Wed.-Sat. at 8:30pm, call for Sun. times, thru 2/9. \$17-21. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

From Awareness

to Action
"Shaping the Future of
Choice in America," Planned Parenthood reception and presentation to mark 24th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. \$35. 6pm. Post St. Pavilion Gallery, 750 Post. 441-7858.

Game Night

Card and board games. Wed. at 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffee-house, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

Patriotism

Emerging and experimental artists depicting America: Dyke Action Machine, Jordy Jones, Dread Scott, more. Wed.-Sat. thru 2/15. The LAB, 2948 16th St. 864-8855.

Q Spirit

Spirituality group for lesbians presents "Waking Up," mul-timedia presentation by Betty McAfee. \$10. 7pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 281-9377

Real World

Exhibition of nine artists who explore implications of scale. Thru 3/1. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 626-5416.

Size of Earth:

"Illuminated Photoworks by Doug and Mike Starn" exhib it, also "The Inaugural Ball:

An Open Space Installation by Margaret Crane and Jon Winet," thru 3/16. \$5. Ansel Adams Center for Photogra-phy, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

Travels with My Aunt

ACT's premiere of Giles Havergal's adaptation stars Ken Ruta, Geoff Hoyle, Charles Dean. Thru 2/2, call for times. \$19-47.50. Tonight at 8pm. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

Trees of Life:

"Symbols of Fertility and Regeneration" exhibit. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/14, \$3. Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason Çtr. 441-0404.

Visual Aid Artists

Exhibition of six "Artists for AIDS Relief," thru 3/28. Saint Francis Hospital, 900 Hyde. 353-6650.



All Women's Comedy Comedy showcase of under ground comediennes. \$5. 8pm. The Tempest, 431 Natoma. 989-5134.

And the World Goes 'Round Musical revue celebrating Bingo Coming Home Hospice bingo benefits AIDS groups. 6:30pm. 100 Diamond. 552-2127.

Codified Desire

Approach

Traveling exhibit curated by Rik Ritchey. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/1. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Installation by Glen Seator: reproduction of front of bldg. Reception tonight, 6pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/22. Capp St. Project, 525 2nd St. 495-7101.

Dad Fought Hitler, the Bottle & Me

Mick Berry's solo performance. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/1. \$10. 8pm. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

Figures and Interiors

American realism exhibition. Mon.-Sat. thru 2/15. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138

Johnny-Boy

Struggling blues musician passes as a man: a love story with music. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/1. \$10. 8:30pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Steve Martin's comedy fea-turing the NY cast. Tues.-Sun, extended thru 3/30. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

This Week's Dinner Specials

415-861-5079

Grilled Pork Chops with pineapple veet & sour sauce, with chef's rice or asked notatoes.....9.50 mashed potatoes.

Chicken & Spaghetti Carbonara with garlic, bacon, chicken tenders and creamy parmesan sauce......8.95

Grilled Atlantic Salmon on a bed of garlic mashed potatoes with lemon-dill sauce and fresh vegetables....10.95

PRIME RIB au jus with baked potato and creamy horseradish.....11.95

Fresh Pacific Oysters Cajun Style or Fried Calamari (appetizer).......4.

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The search begins for Mr. SF Leather 1997

by Mister Marcus

ho will inherit the Mr. San Francisco Leather title in 1997 from Gary Virginia? The date for the big contest has been set: Saturday, April 19, at the Russian Center. Already there are an estimated five contestants and several more to be de-termined. Unless the date is changed, the first one will be Mr.

changed, the first one will be Mr. Castro Station Leather – to be chosen on Thursday, March 6. Mr. Edge Leather will be chosen at that bar on Sunday, March 16.

Daddy's Mr. Leather will be chosen on Thursday, March 20, and a new entry in the field, Mr. Wooden Horse Leather, will be chosen of that the thirth behalf of the control of th chosen at that little hotbed of activism on Friday, March 21. The tivism on Friday, March 21. The final bar contest (so far) for leather titledom will be Mr. SF-Eagle Leather on Thursday, March 27. As the details of these competitions (prize money, etc.) develop, I'll bring you all the particulars.

Veteran observers of leather competitions debate endlessly on

Veteran observers of leather competitions debate endlessly on the value of entering a contest of this type with or without the sponsorship of a leather-oriented bar or business. The Mr. San Francisco Leather competition is open to everyone. You must, of course, be able to prove at least one-year of residency in San Francisco and pay a \$25 entry fee. A pre-judging session by the judges (not yet completely chosen) the day of the contest followed by an onstage 90-second speech, physique judging and speech, physique judging and leather image evaluation are the other criteria involved in choosing the winner. The prizes – besides bearing the prestigious Mr. SF prizes – besides bearing prestigious Mr. SF Leather title – are round-trip air fare to Chicago plus hotel accommodations.

Clubs and groups are gearing up for an-

are gearing up for an-other hot weekend in the Windy City come Memorial Day. The "official"

André "Hunter" English won the January 1998 spot on the Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday, Jan. 16.

party is the Home Town Party. This year it's New York, and Joe Gallagher and his committee are gearing up to make it a real Big Apple blowout. Canadian leather people from Toronto are in the planning stages of their big Maple Leaf Party, and at least a dozen San Francisco leather peo-

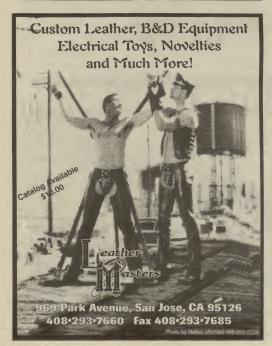
ple are planning the annual San Francisco

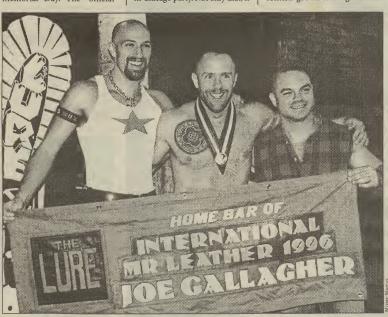
in Chicago party. Not only that, it

looks like hundreds of people will be traveling to Chicago, because that same weekend, the Great Lakes Bears are throwing their big

Lakes Bears are inrowing their big hairy shindig and naming Mr. Great Lakes Bear. Application forms for Mr. San Francisco Leather will be available in the very near future, and remember, you don't have to be sponsored by a bar or business to

The 1998 Bare Chest Calendar contests got off to a big start last





IML Joe Gallagher (center) proclaimed the L.U.R.E. in New York his "home bar" as the bar celebrates its third anniversary this weekend.

EVENTURES LEATHER

Thursday, Jan. 23

Any asshole can win at the Edge Bar's Full Moon party tonight. Danny Williams emcees this hole-y affair beginning at 2200. Prizes! Craziness!

Weekend, Jan. 24-26

Weekend, Jan. 24-26
Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend in Washington,
D.C., and naming of Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather
1997. I'll be Judging, so of course you'll be the first
to get the photos and details.
Hurricane '97 in Fort Lauderdale, a leather
event with palm trees and beaches and hot, hot
men! Naming Mr. and Ms. Leather Fforida. Not to
be confused with Mr. and Ms. Florida Leather held
earlier in Orlando! IML Joe Gallagher and IMDrummer Kyle Brandon will be among the celebrity
judges, probably the most surprising development
of the weekend.
The L.U.R.E. in the Big Apple celebrates its
third anniversary all weekend with surprises galore
and, of course, the very, very popular Pork Boys
entertaining.

entertaining.

Saturday Jan. 25

Busy, busy! "Return of the Fruit Cakes" show and "Santa's Replacement" contest at Kimo's, 2000-2300, sliding scale \$3-\$5. Sponsored by Kindred Spirits MC to benefit Camp Sunburst. SF Eagle's softball team beer bust, 2000-2300,

no price given. There's also a women's play party by Cat Johnson, \$12-\$15. Call 675-0228 for info and location. An exotic wood-handled cowskin floggrey (\$160) by Toy Bag will be given away at midnight, and you must be present to win. E-mail: Cat-Wommin@aol.com. Women only.

The new dungeon space, Backdrop, hosts its st men's party in the wilds of Mountain View, 2100-0200. For price, location and other info:

(408) 293-7600, ext. 15. In Los Angeles, the Faultline is hosting its third anniversary party with a big blowout and celebra-tion. Drop in if you're in the vicinity of 4216 Melrose Ave. and Vermont.

rose Ave. and Vermont.

Here in Faghdad, it's the 13th Annual ETVC
Cotillion at the California Club to benefit Project
Open Hand. Tix are \$23 advance/\$28 door. Includes light meal, 1830-2000. Show begins 2000

Sunday, Jan. 26

It's Super Bowl XXXI. TV parties at bars all over town. The San Franciscans host a Super Bowl beer bust at the SF-Eagle, \$8, 1500-1800.

Thursday, Jan. 30

Looking for Mr. February 1998 on the Bare Chest Calendar at the SF-Eagle, 2130. Show your tender rosebuds, win \$100, fame, etc. Celebrity judges, fun - all for the AEF.

Friday, Jan. 31

Deadline for 1997 Bear Rendezvous weekend packages. Call Fran Frisch at The Leather Zone if

Weekend, Jan. 31-Feb. 2

The Eighth Annual Pantheon of Leather Awards at the Comfort Inn Downtown/New Orleans. Weekend package is \$95. Mr./Ms. Olympus Leather contest. Call (213) 656-5073 or e-mail: tiljandcuir@aol.com. Hotel rooms going fast! Call: (800) 535-9141.

Saturday, Feb. 1

Cal Eagles MC celebrates its 13th anniversary at the SF-Eagle, 1900-2200. Admission by club overlay or invitation in hand.

Thursday night, Jan. 16, at the Eagle. Judges Joey Faria, Philip Turner and Viola Johnson (the significant other of both IMs.L Jill Carter and our own Queen Cougar) faced five study contes-Cougar) faced hee studly contestants and put them through the "interrogation." Lots of laughs and some serious business, too, but in the end, a very handsome 38-year-old dude, André "Hunter" English, took the first spot on next year's calendar. The runner-up was a very feisty, hairy, hung "Jimmer" Cassiol. The other contestants were Brian Turner. hung Jimmer Cassiol. The other contestants were Brian Turner, Christopher Ward and Rick Butler. Mr. February 1998 will be chosen on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 2200. Come on down and either compete, win \$100 or just watch. It's all for the AIDS Emergency

Fund!

On Saturday night, Jan. 18, the San Francisco GDI hosted a big group of well-wishers at their 23rd anniversary party on the Eagle patio. All kinds of buffet food and a scrumptious cake were enjoyed by all in attendance. Sev-eral hundred dollars in checks were distributed to various chari-table organizations, and it was anbeen re-elected president. He named Jeremy Guyer as his "first lady." Guyer will hold the title *in* absentia, as he's returned home to

England for a while.

In the deep freeze of Columbus, Ohio, last Saturday night, Jan.

18, Boy Toy Productions staged their annual Mr. Ohio Valley Leather competition with emcee extraordinaire, Frank Nowicki, doing the honors. Reportedly, a good turnout saw "Chip" Welker of Louisville, Ky., win the title and the right to represent that region over six other contestants. The first runner-up was Jerry Leigh, and second was Paul Froehlich, both of Columbus.

Dildeaux dish

It is hoped your sexual prowess/escapades have not escaped public scrutiny, because you could be nominated for a Golden Dildeaux Award (22 categories). The GDA show will be produced by the Golden Gate Guards MC as



Fuzzy "Jimmer" Cassiol (left) was the first runner-up in the Mr. January '98 BCC contest at the Eagle.

a beer bust benefit at the SF-Eagle

a beer bust benefit at the SF-Eagle on Friday, April 11.

Calls for nominations are already in progress. Please note that the Princess Tiny Meat award has been eliminated. Stay tuned. And don't be screaming: "How did I get nominated in that category?

You Read It Here First: It's almost certain that the annual Gay.

most certain that the annual Gay Erotic Awards (porn stars, videos, etc.) will be held in San Francisco

the night before the Dore Alley Fair (Sat., July 26). The producers decided to start moving it around the country, instead of confining it to Los Angeles. You'll be the first to know when the final decision is

nade.
It's official: The Leather Journal
goes bimonthly after the current
edition now out on the stands. It
will alternate with their other
magazine, Eagle, ▼











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PARTING **GLANCES**

Most Holy Redeemer X-mas Day You: mustache & goatee at 10 AM ser-vices with friend. Me: alone in gray pin-stripe suit. After church I was in my bur-gundy Isuzu Rodeo & you waved to me. 2401.

You were up early. I was up late. Met you after your airport run. Get in touch, Gus.

2 4440.

1/26 By Castro Theater
Our eyes met. I followed you. You met a
frlend. I still followed you. You: blue jacket, hood. Me: blue Jacket, gray hair. Your
beautiful. Let's meet. Call. 12 4441.

1/3/97 Mandy Patinkin Concert Front row. You in green shirt to my left. Felt the heat. Want to know you! At concert how or if to approach? Coffee, concert, dinner? Second chance, serious! 24

Civic Center Muni Sun Dec 29
On escalator, 2 PM. Me: black stocking cap, red sleeveless vest, arms hanging or you: shaved head, friendly, nice! I should've spent a few minutes to get acquainted. Yo-let's talk. 22 4502.

Bruce Bruce Bruce
United Airlines 12/21/96 flight 964 from
SF to Washington/Dulles seat 25D. I was
the shy guy in 25C who couldn't keep his
eyes off you. How about a drink?
4503.

Vernon, W/LA Friend Garrett Dec 30 I met you guys at Hole In The Wall, we then went to My Place. I screwed up with Garrett, would like his LA address to contact him.

2 4504.

Red Jacket Muni Church/Powell ilack hair, blue eyes. You: olive cap/jaci t. We exchanged glances then long look letlieve we're meant to meet. Would like to meet your friends? Definite electricity etween us. **24** 4505.

Mississippi vs. Tennessee
We met New Year's Eve. John from Miss
to John from TN want to connect call with
number. Let's make that perfect date!

Christmas Eve At Tower Records In Marin. You: cute, blond, in red car, of-fered me a ride. I shied out—another chance? Call. 24579.

Cathedral City Boys Club PS.
You: Palo Alto, cute, furry with friend, studying, Me: San Mateo, enjoyed our brief encounter on "the walk" Jan. 2nd.
Would like to see you again. 22 4601.

Doug At Universe 1/4
After some hot body dancing you found us near the entrance. We talked, but didn't exchange numbers. Call for more good times. Paul & Steve. 24 4602.

Hi Paul, It's Lee
You were the sitter, I was in charge. Call
me, let's talk, let's get together, you are
really cute & cuddly. 22 4603.

Kabuki Sat Jan. 4, 9:30 AM
Enjoyed our conversation - day beds. You had an incredible body with a black panther tattoo on your bicep. The steam wasn't hot but I was. Massaged my by butt for you. 12 4604.

Find-Up Sun 1/12 Latin Guy
You: a cute Latin guy, saw you on the dance floor with your friend who has blond halr. We made a lot of eye contat before you left (by the bar) you said got bye & so did I. Would like to meet you. Call. 62 4605.

Dining At The Metro
Frl. 1/10, 9:30 PM. You (tall, dark & handsome) were leaving with friend. I, GAM, seem to catch your eye. Please call. S 4659.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Looking For Sexy Black Man Your message got erased! What I got of the message was you are 33, 6'2", 195. Try again, James. \$\textit{2}\$ 4510.

Nice Guy Seeks Same GWPM, 5'10", 160#, clean shaven. Enjoy hiking, camping, dogs, cooking, movies. You: GWM, GAM, masc., trim, 18 to 40. Enjoy getting sucked A+.

4404.

Intelligent Honest Boyish
Seeking unique individual, 21-27, Asian,
Latin, white. Non-scene, stable, employed
educated. No drugs/indoin/ea/dohol. Outdoors type, smooth, not hung, oral. Me:
30, 6'2", 195#, brown/blue. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 4405.

Sex Outdoors?
Long ride, sweat lips, kiss for an hour. Or one-one baskerball! I'm masculine, GWM, 37, 6, 16.5% very fit, incle bod, nice eyes, cute, would like to try submissive sex w/hot versatile or top. Would like to first firstends & LTR. B and Latin A+. 28 4406.

Lonely In Sacramento
GWM, 35, 5'10", 185#, black, brown
eyes, goodlooking, HIV-, versatile, to mee
GM, 18-45, for fun & friendship.

Cool GWM 4 Warmhearted GAM Handsome, educated, GWM, 40ish, designer, 6'2", 190#, brown eyes & hair. I enjly art, theater, music, travel, entertaining ⊚ home. Seek educated Asian with style for???

4408.

So Fine
Masculine, gym-toned Asian, 49, 5'9",
seeks lean or muscular, clean-shaven WM
for fun and adventurous activities. Enjoy
workouts, sports, dancling, hiking, arts, diverse music and witty humor. 42 4409.

White Boyish 39, ISO Black Top Me: bottom, boyish, slender, blue eyes, lite brown hair, country singer, 39, healthy, HIV+. You: top, masculine, 45 or under, NS, ready for relationship, medium to stocky A+.

4410.

Topman Seeks Boy Wonder
Masculine, long haired, blond/blue, handsome, young 39, 6′, 165 #, HIV-, nice
dick, down to earth, seeks skinny to muscular bottom boy, 18-32, any race,
straight-acting, HIV-, sincere.

4411.

Sex Slave Companion
GWM, 52, 5'7", 150#, masculine top,
HIV-, NS. You: need to suck, fuck, serve,
belong, HIV-, between 25-40. Prefer
quiet, serlous, passive, In-shape, Intellectual type. ## 4412.

Seeking Submissive Leather Boy Into bondage & discipline, 25-35, GWM

Black Man, Short, Natural Dreads, beard, mustache, 40, 61", 160#, HIV-, seeks companions. I'm a musician, music teacher, gardener and masseur. ND/NS/NA.1" m vegetarian & into very simple living. Spiritual. Not looking for a sex buddy, I live in the mountains of Mendocino county, in a small cabin. 128 4413.

Spiritual Native American? GAM seeks gay Native American, 35+, for close friendship & sensual intimacy. Me: 45, 5'6", 165#, boyish with sincere inner spirit. 42 4442.

Country Man Wanted GWSM, 32, 5'6", 150#, muscular, kooky, humorous midwesterner ISO LTR, You: 32+, studly, muscular. Needing af-fection & love. I cook 4U. My place in N. Ca. 12 4444.

Nice Guy Looking To Date
Attractive, young looking 41, GWM,
healthy HIV+, 5'6'', 140#, lean, muscu
lar. Enjoys travel, reading, ym, outdoor
Seeking attractive, 35-45, lean, defined,
smooth to lightly hairy, hung, NS.

4445.

Fuzzy Redhead Bear Prowling SF Affectionate 58 yo, 6'1", 200#, HIV-, versatile, cut, thick. Searching for sensua hot 40+. Animal play first; mutual inter-ests later. Grrrr. 22 4507.

50ish Bld Mg 4 A Handyman Assertive straight acting man under 40, with a sense of humor. Should be experienced, into fun, hanging out & maybe more. I'm 6'2", 195#. № 4508.

Attention Shoppers
Looking to find your partner in 1997?
Start by making this call. I'm 38, a professional, loving, exciting, handsome & yeah, sexually callente Latino hunk. I'm looking for someone like you! 12 4509.

I Am HIV-, 60, lean, masculine, adventurous stable, oral. Enjoy city, movies, cycline exploring back roads, humor, dining, s cerity, friendship. LTR available? 12 4511.

HIV+ Monog, Sprtual, Hon, Rom. That's what I am & looking for, 38, 5°11", thin musc. build. Smoker, ND/No drinking, no games, starting to take care of body & mind. Friends, poss relat. Where are you???

4512.

New Year Fresh Start For GAM 37yo, Filipino/Chinese seeking quality gay men for sincere friendship & possibly hon-est & caring LTR. Serious responses only. No games. 22 4529.

Romantic Bottom?
Average looking, Interesting, 5'8", 135#, blondish, 40, 8", top seeking average looking, easy going, under 35, weight prop to height, any race for bareback sex, friendship, possible relationship.

New S/Mer to SF Very attractive S/Mer, adult video store worker, masseur-sex worker bear, intelli-gent, virtually drug free, hand core bot-tom, top fucker, BD, FF, WS, seeks mas-ter, lover, friend. Me S¹11", 175#, 23. You: hairy, S¹1"+, butch. @ 4514.

Good Guys Finish First
Romance, spontaneity, & holding hands.
Me: GWM, 5'*", 150#, AF/AK, &
HIV+, athletic, liberal, fun, traveler, &
sometimes a brat. Oh yeah, I'm 36 & very
healthy. 12 4515.

Seeking Man Of Color For LTR
I'm goodlooking, sexy, spiritual, fun,
smart, broad-mined, fit, honest, affectionate, caring, nature-loving, progressive,
professional HIV+ GWM. You have similar attributes. Call! 12 4516.

Sexual Healing
GBM top, prof, 40's, ISO GWM bottom,
50 yrs or above who's physically & emotlonally available to pursue a LTR. I'm a
lite smoker & drinker. You must be medium to stocky built. 42 4517.

Seeking Asian Top Mostly
GWM seeks healthy dependable Asian
stud who spanks & is condom crazy. A
caring person while perpetually & etel
ly horny. Humorous & witty too. 12
4518.

Your Hungry Deep Throat GWM, 45, (looks 36, they say), 6', 180#, HIV-, mostly smooth, seeks similar. You're a great guy. GWM, in shape, 18-50. Rough & tender love. Recreational smoke (only), light drink. I'm a veg.

24

Black Beauty?
Cocksucking chubby WM, 37, seeks athletic, hung, 30ish, black man. Cuddling, sucking, talking, books, movies. SF only.
No wimpy kissers need apply. 22 4521.

East Bay Concord in Closet GWM, br/bl, 140#, 7", discreet top wanted. Have van. Massage? share fan-tasies. Anytime, any race, age welcome HIV OK. Safe sex only. Reg service possi-ble.

4522.

Adoption And Bondage
Dad, 50, shaved head, 185#, 6', very in shape, seeks son for cuddling and BD.
Will develop right son. 24 4525.

N. Bay Artist Seeks Partner I'm tall, cute, independent, sweet, tough, confident, unaffected, romantic, humani-tarian, & a very horny bottom. UB: simi-lar top, hairy, butch, horny, a Bay Area traveler. Ready for a great romance. Let's explore together! 120 4526.

FF Top Wants Relationship
Have large talented hands plus toys &
sling. Want hot experienced bottom 35-55
who can handle prolonged sensuous workouts with your ass & mouth. Must like
football & live entertainment.
427.

SWM, 26, New To SF Seeking Friendship, possibly more. Enjoy out-doors, bicycling & dining out. Values I esty & sincerely. If your 18-28 & have similar interests please respond. 22 4528.

Looking For Love
Goodlooking GWM, 39, 6', 180#, &
HIV+, is seeking love. I have dark hair,
and a mustache. I aslo have blue eyes, and
smooth body. All nationalities welcome,
between 25-40 yrs old.
\$\mathbb{\text{2}}\text{4530}\$.

Seeking Kindred
Average looking, Slim, fit, 36, Italian
American wants tall, stocky man, 30-45,
for relationship. Enjoy ocasional partying, gym, movies, traveling to hot weather
locations. Let's meet. 12 4531.

HIV+ Latin Top Wanted time was a Latino. I'm ruined! HIV+ Concord area bottom, 34, 6′, 185#, blond, blue, handsome, stable, employed home owner needs Latino Let's snuggle by the fire while winter rages. Smoker preferred.

4532.

River Phoenix Look-A-Like Seeks genuine gentleman to sight the stars, do yoga, meditation, revolution, change call this Adet call home. \$\square\$ 4534.

GWM 41 Fit Goodlooking, HIV-, like travel, reading, work outs, top & bottom. Seeks GWM, 25-50, fit, ND, It S&M OK, employed GWM for fun & poss. LTR.

22 4619.

Loyal Bear Cub Sks Big Bear GWM, 35, short brown hair, balding, goatee, semi hairy, HIV-, 5'10'', 175'#, pret-ty eyes, glasses, nice smlle. Sexual, ro-mantic, fun loving & responsible looking for big hairy bear daddy for LTR.

Attractive Latino 5'7", 145#, morero claro, mustache, goatee. HIV-, professional seeking guy, white or Latin, 25-35 for friendship or maybe more. 22 4581.

I'm Old Fashion...
But I don't mind it. Funny, creative, 40's, healthy, trim, quiet introvert seeks similar NS, eccentric but stable types for fun & games. Sense of humor a must. 122 4585.

ISO Daddy/Coach/Business Exec GWM, 25, 62", 175#, brn/hał seeks GWM, 35-45ish. Must be masculine, athletic, professional, educated & capable of commitment/monogamy. NS/ND. Pluses: S&P hair, 6" plus, hairy chest. interests include biking, rollerblading, & Glide on Sunday AM. Not into casual sex. 22 4606.

Silk And Nylons
Horny GBM Daddy, ISO GWM bottom in panties, panty-hose etc. UB: 50 yr +, bottom in bed & equal partner out. Me: 40's & hung. We: enjoy role playing. 122 4607.

HIV + And Under 34
Prefer Latinos or Caucasians for friendship, maybe LTR. I'm Latin, 25, 5'7",
160#, versatile, attractive. Please be humorous, outgoing & NS.

4608.

Handsome Muscular Italian 38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, ro-mance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-extremely well hung man for monogamor relationship. № 4609.

Woof! Great Dane Seeks Gorilla GWM, 155#, 5'8", blnd/blu, must., smooth, HIV+, healthy gdlkg seeks extremely hairy man to share warm meaningful times. Smoke, drink OK. HVW prop. Very sincere, smile.

4610.

Ass Master Needed
With Sensitive, experienced hands to expand & explore the tight butt hole on this rock solid bodybuilder. 22 4611.

Russian River GWM 41, 5'9", 185#, blond/blue seeks mascu-line GWM, 25-50, for friendship, possible LTR. Clean & sober only. Christian is a plus.

4612.

Beauty
Is In the eye of the beholder. Skinny, m
dle aged man seeks hot muscle guy to
worship. Are you out there? \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 4613.

Silver Terrace GWM, 40, 180#, 6'4", br/gray, goatee Interests: movies, flea markets, 2 stepin, walks on beach, ISO 25-45, w/sim Inter-ests. NS/ND, spiritual A+. 12 4615.

Friendship To Relationship
Attractive Aslan, 29, 5'6'', 140#, medium features, clean shaven, softly smooth, mixed-core, oriental looks, HIV-. Seeking happy, friendly, healthy, muscular, men of any colors, over 25, for friendhsip, possible LTR. 22 4616.

Sourmet Cocksucking
Sucking dick is one thing; sucking you
OFF quite another! Big loads beat big
dicks! My cocksucking maximizes you
load(s) irrespective of equipment. Feels
better too! Regular service?

4617.

SJ Chinese Seeks Asians GAM, 29, 5'4", 123#, smooth-skinned, gdlkng, seeks similar Asian guys especial ly who speak Mandarin for friends or more. Waiting for your call. 122 4618.

SJ Leather Bear/Uniform Buddy GWM, 38, 6'3", 220 lb., red beard, hairy, average equipment, versaille, professional, sophisticated, NSTND seeks same for pawin', cuddin' & hibernatin'; explore other scenes together. No one nighters. 120 4620.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

GAM, 24, Looking For GWM
Between 20-37. Goodlooking, Top N Bottom. Interested in having a good time.
414.

Let's Wrestle Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others turned on by wrestling. Open to all skills levels & fantasies. No heavy rough hous-ing. Just good, clean sweaty fun. So ahead & call—you won't be disappointed. \$2 4415.

Seeking Black Top Oakland Area WM, 40's, HIV-, fit, to suck your cock, service other areas & then a good heavy fuck. I'm clean, stable. Reply, let's talk.

5150, All I Care About, Manly Deep throated sexperts needed to pop the East Bay's longest, thickest & julciest. A fast, wild, hot & intense experience. No frustrated lovers please. 22 4417.

Ass Plower
Hungry ass plower needs a tight bubble
butt for regular workouts. Must be able
take my long tool for hours. Be in good
shape, 30's, facial hair & masc like my
self. 419.

Here Is My Fantasy, I Lay Naked You walk in, (door unlocked) you grease my tight, haird, man's hole & fuck me with your hard dick, GBM preferred. \$2 4421.

Ass Massage Erotic Spanking I want to look at, touch, squeeze, massage, tickle, probe, spank & top your bust. Whe attrac, (WM 46, 65°, 250%, husky build, mustache, hairy chest, stomach. You: attrac, 6WM, 18-35, slim, smooth, moderate body hairy & nice buns.

4222.

Have It His Way
Surrender control to this handsome
Hawailam/Asian hunk, 35, with smooth,
chiseled muscular body. Love to pump
your face & butt. Get tied up & use enth
sastically! He will make you cum help-lessly. You: cute, trim/muscular.

Handsome Masculine Bottom 40, 6'2", 190#, mustached. Looking for good times with hot tops that want to sat-isfy my hungry ass. 122 4425.

Northern European Visiting SF GWM, 36, 5'9 1/2", 150#, educated, professional. Interests: travel, swimming, food, walking, movies, NS. ISO black/white, 26-45 yrs. top. Well hung +. Similar interests. NS ND.

2426.

Peaches 'N Cream GWM, 29, submissive bottom with peach-fuzz bubble butt & hungry mouth seeks top(s) with hot mouth & cream loaded pole to tantalize my tight asshole. \$\sigma\$ 4427.

Teach Me To Fuck You Hard! I'm just gettin' into porkin' guys. Seeking masculine, well-built bottom. I'm tall, fit, bearded, hairy, 42, with nice cut dick. Weekday encounters. Also enjoy VA, rough sex, BD.

4428.

Lovin' Ass
Dominant, muscular, fuck stud, 37 yrs,
185#, 6'1", seeks boys/men, 18-45,
w/very tight, muscular, non-fat butts who
love an 8" dick up their ass. Hardbodies
wanted. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 4429.

Ass Master Needed With sensitive experience Ass master Needed
With sensitive experienced hands to expand & explore the tight butt hole on this rock hard bodybuilder. 22 4430.

Knock Come In Strip Down
And I'll do the rest. Think darkness. Think
sex. Think of my talented tongue buried
up your but by hot Italian. Call for info &
get off tonight.

2431.

Sex Buddy
Cute African-American guy, 25, 5'6",
155#, seeks guys of all ethnic backgrounds, 22-34 yrs only!! Be goodlooking
or cute, single, gay only! Be a top, HIV-,
no 1 night stands! 22 4447.

Uncut
150 other foreskins for safe feeling, tou
ing, mutual jack off. Be under 50, relatively fit, sane, pleasant-looking. Let's
meet, then arrange a time to play.
2448.

Seeking Hungry Oral Artist
Sexy, masculine, hairy bear, 45, 5'5",
140#, with hot crotch & rock hard cock
seeks eager, talented buddy for oral wor
ship & service. Verbal, dominant, sane,
HIV- & healthy.

4449.

Discreet Sexual Fun Friendship GWM, late 40's, 6', trim, HIV-, 165#, in LTR w/not enough sex play seeks similar or single discreet person for wkday sex fun & pleasure, oral, sensual JO, roaming hands, kissing. Nicely endowed w/big shaved balls, ball play.

4535.

Asian Cock Sucker
Seeks white/Latino under 35. You: sexy,
hung & in shape. Me: cute, smooth, & oral
expert. 24536.

Compulsive Masturbator?
Over 40, hung, trim, verbal, HIV-? Same:
seeks playmates. Uncut, piercings, shaved
are pluses.

4537.

Hot Mouth For Big Dick Boys Cute WM. 26. pages than the Cute WM, 26, eager deep throat, seeking well-hung, young buddies, 18-26. Fuck m mouth & show me your creamy load. You be clean, healthy, boyish, goodlooking & horny.

4538.

Bear With Great Sex Organ

HIV+ Bttm Sks Hung Tops
You and your buddies. Shave my crotch & boy pussy then feed both ends your cocks & balls over & over. Toys/cameras. No pain/fats-Santa Rosa.

24541

Tall Poz ISO Short Poz Me: 6', 164#, It blond, vers, hung 9x7, 40yo. You: 5'4", or less, slender, hung 8"+, vers, age, race, unimp. mutual plea-sure VIP. 52 4542.

Exercise Videos
They just don't seem to get the heart ra up enough...unless It's homemade.

4543.

Hairy Ass Arab Sking Experienced Men to train his fab ass in the art of FF or else. He is 37 yo, gr eyes, big nipples. \$\omega\$ 4544.

26 yr SWM Sks Young 27 Under Boys that love to get sucked off. Drain your load on my face & tongue. Bring your friends, brothers. The more the better. Punks, skaters A+. 12 4545.

Passionate Hung Top Wanted WM, 50, 6', 210#, seeks hung top, HIV-masculine, sensitive. First time A+. 120 4546.

Like To Show Off Get Sucked We meet at a park or bathroom prefer-ably in the middle of nowhere & I show up with a raging hard on in my sexy shorts & you take care of it. 42 4547.

Big Cocks Big Nuts
Want to video tape them, you get a copy.

4549.

I Like To Service Orally
Handsome LM, 29, 5'11", 160#, looking
for athletic guys, 25-30, in shape, W or L
w/sensitive bodies: feet, butt, cock, pits,
tits & lips. No reciprocation.

4550.

Husky Men Wanted GWM bear, 42, 6'1", 240#, looking for husky Hispanic, black, or Aslan men. I am friendly vers & fun.

4552.

Young Guys Under 25 Lay back get done by GWM, 40's, HIV-, oral expert, long, slow, & deep. Any race. 2 4554.

Hot, Uncut Boy 20-35 Wanted By handsome GWM, 35, 6', 185#, with big hard cut dick. I want to suck you, get you hot, then put you on your knees for a doggie style fuck.

↑ 4555.

Fuck Me. Let's Suck Each Other Seeking smooth, in shape, well hung, HIV-partner for regular sessions. Any age. I'm 45, smooth, thin, toned, young body. Your house in SF. Let's get together.

2 4556.

Big Firm Butt?

Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big needs Cau men, 20-30's, well built w/big hairy bubble butt to eat & fuck.

\$\sigma\$ 4558.

Me: GWM, 20yo, thin, in-shape, 510°, 145°, br/blu, goodlooking, nice fuckable as, likes long fucking sesions. You: GWM, 24-40, muscular, masculine, big cut dick, likes to fuck ass long hard.

4560.

Hot Hung Boy Seeks Same GWM, 5'9", 150 #, br/bl, in great shape, 32 yo looks younger. Seeks guys w/similar build, 22-35 yo for hot action. I'm great cocksucker will take your load. Versatile too. 22 4561.

Black Fuck Buddies Wanted
White ass for black dick. Age & shape not important as long as you have a hard black dick. Call me when you are ready to fuck. \$22,4562.

CA

Couples

Others

Se

Expert Cocksucker Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal topman, over 40, wgt. proportion. Cauc or Asian. \$\text{2} 4582.

Daddy's Boy BM, 39, 6'1", 165#, 9". Are you dady's boy? You 25-?, masculine, versatile. Your nasty hole, big hanging balls. Let daddy open you up. 8M, Latino. East Bay. ♀ 4583.

Very Hairy Men Turn Me On Latin & Mediterranean men are very sexy to me. I'm 30, 5'11", 180#, curly blond halr, blue eyes. You be sexy, easy going, passionate, masc for fun, pleasure, maybe more.

24621.

The Tongue Wants You! Stick your hot butt in my face & get service you'll never forget. me: hot GWM, 36, 6', 160', long bushy mustache. You: hot & ready. 22 4622.

Sexy Submissive Boy
Late 20's, needs to submit to mature top
daddy's heavy-handed discipline & stiff
ass fucking. I'm a hot cock sucker & I
want to be your bitch.
1242 4623.

Hot Nasty Boys Only
UB, 25-35, GWM/GLM, good shape,
clean shaven, ready to spread 'em, 4 talented hot hard top, 40, 5'6", 140#, with
rock hard tool, long sessions A+. 12
4624.

Krakatoa? Vesuvius? Mt Helen? Mega-eruptions are an awesome sight!
Shoot your personal best after incredible oral service from the local volcano maker Specs: GWM/bottomless throat/ 6', 170#, 40's, goatee, halr-challenged, smart & nice too. Leave your lava here.

A1 Oral Service—Delivered
SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers
complete oral service to mature, trim guys
who really dig getting sucked off. Your
place. No reciprocation. HIV-.

42 4626.

Cute Hunky Asian
32, 5'9", 170#, muscular seeks good-looking, hunky guys, 25-40, for safe fun
(titulay, assplay, body contact, J0) men of
color a plus. 4627.

Distinguished Mentor
Schoolmaster/artist, 5'4", 150#, silver halr, golden hands, black strap by which to command respect. You be HIV-, smar musc, masc, hot, good humored, body halr, foreskin, peninsula loc, pluses.

Goodlooking Daddy Seeks Boy For SM, CBT, TT, discipline & affection, 6'1", 215#, 45, muscular, tattoos, leather. 12 4629.

May I Pleasure Your Asshole
Masculine daddy, exc shape, 47, 6′, 170#, with muscles & a big one wants to play with your ass with my fingers, fist, toys etc. You: to 35, cute, smooth butt, in shape. 22 4630.

I Wanna Suck Your Butt Imagine yourself laying face down, spread eagled on my bed in total darkness with my tongue buried deep in your butt by a hot Italian, 43, 6', 190, S&P, beard.

Hot Hung & Horny Goodlooking, Italian, 33, top, uncut, hairy, in shape, looking for casual play-mates, 3-ways, under 40, SF only. 8e In shape, looking for action & ready for a good time. 12 4632.

Seeking Horny Yng Guys To Eat!

18-22 yrs, small to med build, nice clean ass for my dinling pleasure. Expert JO & oral services by GWM, 35, 5'10", 170*, bri short goatee, hairy, no recip nec. Shy inexperienced OK. 12 4633.

Calling All Cocks
BIWM, HIV-, no STD's ISO GWM under
35, with buddies to give me a cum bath,
pop my cherry & drill my but. Into almos
everything. 8 reak this mustang!

Muscle Worship & Massages
For school athletes or bodybuilders, 1824, WM, smooth, pro massage & JO machine, Videos, call Ricky! 122 4635.

GWM 60's Bearded
Wants to worship your black body & spirit. 22 4642.

"Fun Manhole"
Goodlooking man wants hungry hands to probe & pound my white, hot, inside flesh. Deep, long & sensual heavy butt play preferred.

4636.

Dominant Man
WM, 35, seeking submissive male for part
time house slave position, age, looks,
unimportant. Must be masculine & willing
to serve on a regular (weekly) basis.

4637.

I Need A Hero
With a big, hairy dick to suck & sit on.
brown-gray/blue, 43, 5'10", 150#. Educated, prof., Interested? HIV-. 😭 4638.

Heretofore Hetero Seeks Guide 55 yrs., WSM, 6'4", 230#, muscular & toned. Combo of Mr. Clean & E. Heming way. Curious, sensuous removable teeth. Your place, N. Bay. No angst but anxiou & eager. 22 4639.

Seattle Musclebear Needs Hosts 30yo, 6′, 210#, muscular, mascullne, handsome & Intelligent, blond jock moving to SF. Visiting SF in February & periodically afterwards until job found. Need friends, fun, & Inexpensive lodging.

4640.

Muscular Pec Fanatic
Masculine, muscular, goodlooking, 40 yo, 5'8", 170#, seeks muscled, developed pecs for mutual intense serving, punching, powerful sucking. Age, race, looks, unimportant. Muscular pecs a must.

4641.

Hot Bottom W/Tight Ass Cute WM, 56yo, 5'2", brn/blue, 115#, with hairy, little ass. HIV-, horny!! Seeks, hung tops who love to fuck. LTR possible. 22 4644.

Italian Guys!!!
I'm the guy who knows what the Italian male really wants. 22 4645.

FETISHES

Cum/Piss/Rim
Headline says it all. 6-pack maximizes #2 as #1 unloads. Fluids drained, rimming for clean eager assholes. I'm 5'9", 160#, 32" waist, br/br. Cllents repeat. Ask for (returnable) photo/resume.

4450.

Foreskin Service I'd love to chew, tongue, stretch & dock I'd love to chew, tongue, stretch & dock with your skin. I need It for long periods of time. 6 1/2"-8" semi-hard A+.
4451.

Need A Fist?
Muscular, masculine, safe FF top, 6',
215#, mustache, tattoos, looking for
muscular, confident FF bottom for long
probing sensual sessions. NS/ND.

4452.

Hot Toilet Action
Explore hot, safe, tollet scenes with mas
culine, attractive, in shape guy. You are
younger, trim, hung & creative. Reply
box. 22 4453.

SF Top Fist Expert Available
For your pleasure. Talented fingers fist
arm. Have sling, full beard, furry chest
7X6 cut. You: clean hungry butt eager fe
daytime session HIV+ OK. Clinton.
4565.

Wantek Jock Strapped Coach
Wanted to give excellent head to. Turnons, hairy, mustached, sweaty gym
clothes, arm pits, jockstraps, locker room
sex, getting your dick sucked all day
watching football & drinking lots of beer.
S 4566.

S. Bay Asshole Play
WM, 45, goodlooking, expert ass eaten
with rim chair & toys. You be in shape
with hot hole. 4567.

John
Couldn't be at Starbucks Thur 1/16 @
6:30. Would like to meet you, Clinton.
4647.

HIV + Slave Wanted
Must be masochistic. Into CBT, TT, whipplng, cum, piss, feet, ass, man smells. Mei
gdlking, masc., 6'4", 45, hairy chest, mustache. You: under 30, smooth, in shape,
slave attitude! 4568.

On Your Knees Boy! Bi WM, HIV-, 45, big thick, uncut, top needs boy(s) to take care of me. I'm de-manding, tough, verbal, but sane. Must worship my whole body. WS/Feet etc.

4569.

Porn 0 Watcher Wanted
I like Jacking off with another man while
watching porno movies & stroking some
guys cock. If really interested. Call!!!

Total Latex Action Total Latex Action
Looking to connect with other guys into
total latex action. Let's gear up & play in
head to toe latex including hoods, gas
masks, CB sheaths, etc. Cuddling, vanilla
or kink as long as it's in total latex. I have
the gear and you should too. 4571.

Big Bear Does Oral Tricks For Older, dominant, in shape guys with six inches or more. Hear this healthy, HIV+bear beg for your thick throat biscuit. Bear laps your cream. Good bear! 92 4573.

Whipped & Creamed GWM, 41yo, tall, goodlooking, well dressed ISO others into food for messy punishment, humiliation. Guertake, pies, eggs, oatmeal, water, suits, uniforms, bondage, spanking, humor, imagination A+.

42 4574.

Mack Sun Dec 5 4AM 1st FI Sling Applogues for accident. Please reconnect w/s&p beard & tribal tatts ff bttm. You: v-short beard, full leather, 35+, slender, strong, top, intense. 48457.

Hispanic Chub Seeks Hot Top GHM, 28yo, 300#, 6'1", smooth, hand-some looking for GHM or GWM under 40 who has a fetsh for big boys. Me: a hot, oral, bottom, let's hook up! № 4588.

Raunchy Young Studs Dominant, under 30, cute, sexy, wanting to get serviced then get real raunchy for W/S to...Share some fantasies with me, bring a buddy? S 4651.

Medical Top Sought
By btm, I have operating room, table, enema gear, restraints, caths, NG tubes, sounds, rubber & more. HIV-, NS, 5'9", 178#, clean cut, 40's, very discreet.

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Let daddy have that cock. I also eat clean
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Are you in a cast, brace, bandages, use crutches or a wheelchair, or just have a big swollen foot? Age/race unimportant. GAM, 158#, 578", goodlooking, workout, 23 yr old.
4595.

Flex Your Muscles
WM, late 40's, seeks muscular guy of any
size into flexing, posing & being admired.
Love baseball, biceps, hot pecs. Especially
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Looking to hear from men into piss & scat action & fantasies. Share photos, J/O stories & drawings of other men pissing/dumping. Public restrooms turn you on too?

42 4597.

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Looking For Dominant Black Man Submissive white boy for rough play, ver-bal action, and live out fantasies. I am WGM, 45, 137#, 5'8", trim & obedient. Need discipline & a real man-handler for expanding limits.

4448.

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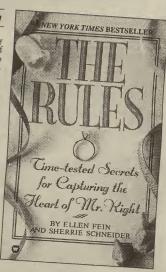
Getting the hang of the rules

by Conor Kennedy

t takes a seriously shocking piece of writing to gum up the works of our society's ever-whirling, al-ways-spinning media machine. The Rules, by Ellen Fein and Sherrie Schneider, is a new tome for straight girls that has managed to leap off the bits section of USA Today and into our collective consciousness even earning its overbearing authors a turn on the Oprah Winfrey Show, a mood barometer if there ever was one. How has such a cloying, insubstan tial book made

cloying, insubstantial book made headlines? By setting back the hard-won principles of feminism a couple decades. Starting with the premise that women are no longer finding successful, meaningful relationships with the confused modern man, The Rules promises to "bring out the best in you and in the men you date" with one dead center goal: "Marriage, in the shortest you date" with one dead center goal: "Marriage, in the shortest time possible to a man you love, who loves you even more than you love him." Not too shabby for a \$5.99 paperback.

Like the drugstore Playgirls of our youth, The Rules begs to be appropriated by the '90s queer



hunt. Among them: "you're an optimist"; "you don't chase anyone"; "you don't settle." Oh, and one; you don't settle. On, and for the excessively chatty, don't overwhelm a man with all of your ideas and dreams. On a date your answers should be "short, light and directions" and flirtatious.

Making the rules work can eem confusing at times, like when the authors recommend a make-over and a nose job, or when they suggest that prospective students never make eye contact or let a phone conversation run on after ten minutes. But never fear, just

Making the rules work can seem confusing at times, like when the authors recommend nose jobs and that no phone conversation run on after ten minutes.

man, who is equally frustrated and hungry for that one perfect relationship (ring or no ring). Of course, this new protocol can at first seem a bit daunting. Master-ing 35 rules and "12 Extra Hints" suggests that winning at the love game is a bit like going for a black belt. However, like all major cults and religions, these complicated rules can be watered down to a few basic tenets, beginning with the all-important self-esteem. When passing through life always remember you are a "creature un-like any other." And "when you go had any other. And which you go to a singles dance or party ... you hold your head high and walk in as if you just flew in from Paris on the Concorde." It sounds over-the-top, but if that's what you need to feel pretty, tall or sexy, so be it. Also, if necessary, *The Rules* advises a make-over, wardrobe upgrade, nose job and a better We are not nutritionists, but det: "We are not nutritionists, but we do know that eating right — protein, fruits and vegetables — makes you feel good." If you follow these rules, you will have "more confidence than women with MBAs or money in the bank." So there!

Many clichés

For easy consumption, The Rules also offers endless bumper-stickeresque slogans to help guide your mindset while on the man-

trust Fein and Schneider, for they know best and have many success stories to prove it: "A woman we know who followed the rules is know who followed the rules is now married to a wonderful man who doesn't try to get rid of her to go out with the guys. Instead, he becomes slightly jealous when she does her own thing. They are very good friends too." So, when that hourglass hits the ten-minute mark you say "I have to run," even if you're only running to change the kitty litter. Likewise, it doesn't it you're only running to change the kitty litter. Likewise, it doesn't matter if you're spending Saturday nights at home watching Mac-Gyver on the USA Network, never accept a weekend date after Wednesday. Finally, no matter what, never forget the allure of mystery. Give a man some time to find out the bends and curves of your past. There's no reason for anyone you've just met to know anyone you've just met to know about your history of credit prob-lems, abusive high school gym teacher, or other intensely person-al details best left to one's diaries.

Even if you think the rules in The Rules aren't quite for you, here's one piece of advice that we all can use after that disappointing brush with possibility on the dance floor at the End Up. "Don't go to pieces when your date doesn't work out ... you're an optimist. You brush away a tear so that it doesn't smudge your make-up and you move on!" ▼

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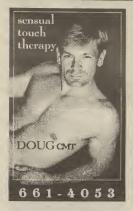
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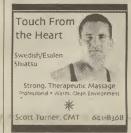
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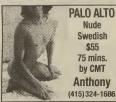


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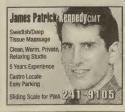
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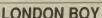


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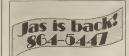


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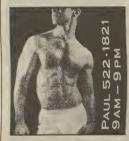
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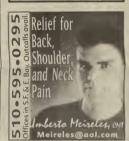


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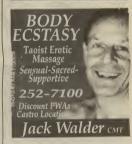


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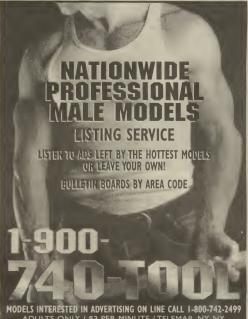


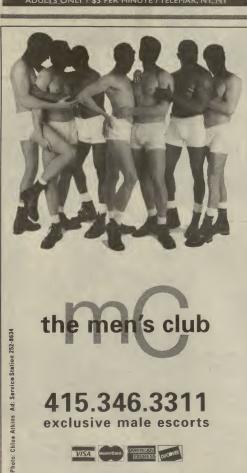
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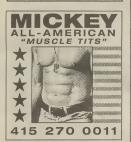
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